

MARGOT NORMAN

Do we need to lock up our daughters?

Safety in schools, page 16



SYMPHONIC SOS

Britain's orchestras drowning in debt

Richard Morrison, Arts page 33



SIMON JENKINS

Why John Major is fighting phoney war

Heading for 1996, page 18

30P

THE TIMES

No. 64,915 WEDNESDAY MARCH 30 1994

THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION

Disillusioned Conservatives reluctantly support retreat in European voting row

Major faces new struggle for survival

BY PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major was last night suffering a severe crisis of confidence in his leadership as a disillusioned Conservative Party was forced to fall in behind a retreat in the European Union voting row.

Backbenchers from across the party spectrum were openly questioning whether the Prime Minister could survive if the Tories lose heavily in the European elections in June.

Mr Major was felt to have exhausted much of his remaining goodwill by his handling of the dispute, preparing his troops for a titanic struggle with Brussels only seven days ago, and then caving in yesterday with a deal that few regarded as satisfactory.

In Commons scenes suggesting that support for Mr Major was draining away, he was heard in almost funereal silence from his own side as he spelt out details of the so-called Greek compromise that had been accepted by the Cabinet in spite of objections from four rightwing ministers and massive opposition from Tory MPs.

The Euro-sceptic Tony Marlow urged the Prime Minister to step aside for someone who provided authority and leadership. He accused Mr Major of having no credibility or identifiable policy on Europe. The Prime Minister, clearly shaken by his reception, retorted that it was time that Mr Marlow showed some loyalty to the party that elected him. Mr Marlow, however, was simply declaring publicly what many more discreet colleagues were saying privately.

Senior Cabinet ministers accepted that a leadership election this year was more likely, and Michael Heseltine, who backed Douglas Hurd's compromise, was being talked up by senior backbenchers on the left and right as the front-runner. One customarily loyalist backbencher said: "If the Prime Minister were to stand up in the House this afternoon and announce his resignation,



Marlow: he called on Major to resign

Michael Heseltine would be in Downing Street within days and the whole party would sigh with relief."

It was a dismal fifty-first birthday for the Prime Minister. Conservative MPs had risen in revolt on Monday night when Mr Hurd appeared to be set on accepting the deal; the whips were left in no doubt of the strength of furious opposition, and the message was conveyed to Downing Street.

But it was too late to influence yesterday's outcome. Mr Major had given his support to the compromise on Monday afternoon, leaving the way clear for Mr Hurd to negotiate directly with Jacques Delors, the European Commission President, on fresh Brussels concessions.

The Foreign Secretary told the Cabinet it was the best available deal in the circumstances, and after a debate lasting some 90 minutes they agreed with him. But only after the four leading rightwingers, Michael Howard, Michael Portillo, Peter Lilley and John Redwood, had questioned whether it was right to accept the limited compromise on offer. Mr Redwood, it is understood, came back at the end of the debate in a second attempt to persuade his colleagues.

But they were heavily outnumbered by the majority, led by Mr Major, Mr Hurd, Mr Heseltine and Kenneth Clarke, and it had been clear from the start that the Cabinet could not be seen to reject Mr Hurd's advice.

None of the rightwing ministers apparently considered resigning. One of their colleagues said: "Why jump ship when the captain is about to go overboard?"

Mr Major then left for the Commons for one of the most uncomfortable sessions he has faced since becoming Prime Minister in 1990.

Branded a "fool" by Paddy Ashdown and mocked by John Smith for his "retreat from his vainglorious assertion of no surrender", Mr Major concentrated on the detail of the compromise.

Watched by glum Tory faces, he maintained that he had wrung enough concessions to accept the deal. He confirmed that there would be a root and branch reform of the voting system in 1996, but acknowledged that not all of the Government's concerns had been met.

Mr Smith said that fear of warring factions in the Conservative party had propelled the Prime Minister "into an unwise conflict which he could not, and did not, win".

Tory MPs said last night that the Easter parliamentary recess could not come too soon for Mr Major. It would at least give him the opportunity to regroup, and more than two months of electioneering should give him the chance of a comeback.

Most Tory MPs believe his best hope is to fight a strong personal campaign and for his party somehow to fare better than the polls are suggesting. It is a tall order. But Mr Major has surprised his party before, notably in winning the 1992 election.

Matthew Parris, page 2
Politics, pages 10,11
Analysis, page 12
Simon Jenkins, and Woodrow Wyatt, page 18
Leading article, page 19



Peter Brookes — VICTORY-IN-EUROPE DAY — 30 iii 94

Delors denies offering concessions

FROM GEORGE BROCK, EUROPE EDITOR, IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission has made no concession to Britain over EU social policy, Jacques Delors said last night, flatly contradicting John Major's earlier claims to have extracted promises that Brussels would ease up on social law-making.

The argument between Brussels and London erupted as all 12 EU governments accepted the compromise over majority voting and closed a quarrel that took the union to the brink of crisis.

The Prime Minister told MPs that the final element of the package had been "assurances" from the Commission that it would stop proposing health and safety directives which were not "strictly relevant" to health and safety, and that Britain's social opt-out in the Maastricht treaty would not be bypassed.

But asked if he had made policy concessions to Mr Major, M Delors, the Commission President, said last night: "No, no. I simply clarified the programme of the Commission for the present year and also the interpretation of the social protocol. That's all. As far as the (Maastricht) social protocol is concerned, it's simply clarification on the application." The British Government had told him, he said, that the clarifications were "useful".

The social affairs commissioner, Padraig Flynn, also denied any compromise, saying: "There was no such concession or change in policy insofar as social policy in the union is concerned. Nothing of that nature could take place without my agreement, and my agreement was neither sought nor given."

EU officials and diplomats emphasised last night that the Commission had merely agreed, at Douglas Hurd's request, to relay to Britain's ambassador several "reminders and clarifications" about upcoming social policy. One senior Eurocrat described the exchange as a "demeaning figleaf for both parties".

Partly because of the fuss which Britain has created about such European legislation, there is very little social law in the pipeline for this year — and yesterday's "reminders" from the Commission apply only to the rest of this year. They are a cosmetic solution to a political problem which do not guarantee any changes in Commission policy, but they do make one amendment more likely than it was.

Whitehall officials hope that if the Commission reissues a proposed directive requiring multi-national companies to set up pan-European works councils, the text will be rewritten to affect only about a hundred British companies and not some three hundred which would have been covered by an earlier version. But Commission officials insisted last night that no decision had been taken on the issue and no binding commitment made.

Yesterday's agreement on majority voting means that talks on the entry terms for Austria, Sweden, Finland and Norway to join the EU next year can be closed today.

Attention now shifts to the European Parliament, which is being asked to ratify the enlargment of the union in May, only weeks before MEPs have to stand for re-election. The last-minute compromise on voting procedures is thoroughly unpopular with many MEPs.

Man charged with schoolgirl murder

BY LIN JENKINS AND PAUL WILKINSON

AN UNEMPLOYED man appeared in court yesterday charged with murdering Nikki Conroy and trying to murder two classmates.

Handcuffed by his right wrist to a court officer, Stephen James Wilkinson, 29, was flanked by four officers behind a protective glass screen in the Middlesbrough magistrates' court. Seven more police officers stood in the well of the court and in the public gallery.

Mr Wilkinson, of Caversham Road, Middlesbrough, was charged with having murdered 12-year-old Nikki, of Ridley Avenue, Acklam, Middlesbrough, at Hall Garth School, Acklam, on Monday. He was also charged with the attempted murder of Emma Jane Winter, 13, of Brittain Avenue, Acklam, and Michelle Reeve, 13.

Mr Wilkinson, shaven-headed and in police-issue overalls, spoke only to confirm his name, address and date of birth.

David Chadwick, prosecuting, applied for him to be remanded in custody for a week. John Swaine, defending, made no application for bail. Alan Morely, chairman of magistrates, remanded Mr Wilkinson in custody for seven days.

☐ The Prince of Wales will make a brief private visit to Hall Garth School today, to visit the headmaster and chairman of the governors.

Details, analysis, page 3
Margot Norman, page 16
Leading article, page 19

Court ends 'age escape' for children

The High Court threw out an "outrageous" common law rule that children between 10 and 14 must be proved to know right from wrong.

The rule — highlighted in the Bulger murder trial, in which two boys aged 10 were convicted of murdering — should "no longer be part of the law of England," Lord Justice Mann said ..... Page 2
Law Report, page 39

Schools defy test boycott

Almost 14,000 schools have ordered paper and pencil tests in English, mathematics and science as part of the first national pilot of the controversial mini-examinations for 11-year-olds, casting doubt on the projected union boycott of compulsory testing ..... Page 7

Votes enquiry

Dame Shirley Porter, former leader of Westminster Council, and nine others are expected to appear before a lengthy public enquiry, announced yesterday, into the council's alleged vote-rigging activities ..... Page 6

Norwich Union suspends pensions sales force of 800

BY ROBERT MILLER

NORWICH Union, one of the most respected household names in the insurance and pensions business, yesterday suspended its 800-strong pensions sales force.

The unexpected announcement was prompted by an inspection of the company's paperwork on pensions and investment sales by the regulator Lautro, which is responsible for policing pensions groups and unit trust companies.

The suspended staff must undergo intensive training and reassessment before being allowed to sell pensions to the public again. During this time the Norwich Union representatives will be paid an allowance. Generally they are paid only paid by commission, rather than a salary or retainer, for each pension or life policy sold.

The Norwich Union announcement comes on the eve of an important debate in Parliament on the growing pension transfer scandal, in which there have been allegations that up to 500,000 people may have been wrongly advised to transfer from occupational schemes into personal pensions. There are also concerns that up to 2.5 million people may have been wrongly advised to opt out of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (SERPS).

Alistair Darling, Labour's City affairs spokesman who will speak in the debate, said last night: "We will be calling for an urgent examination of the role of commission, which means that salesmen are under pressure to sell to make ends meet and to keep their jobs.

"We also want an urgent enquiry into the transfer by 2.5 million low paid people out of SERPS into private pensions."

Norwich Union, the UK's third largest insurance company after the Prudential and Standard Life, refused to comment on the individual commission payments. The company stands to lose up to £10 million of business as a result of closing down its 25 offices nationwide while sales representatives undergo retraining. Last week, the Prudential announced the dismissal of 23 sales agents for "misconduct".

Letters, page 19
Lautro enquiry, page 25

Berlusconi alliance sweeps in

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS
IN ROME

SILVIO Berlusconi, the media tycoon, began negotiations to form a right-wing government last night after his Freedom Alliance won a landslide victory in the Italian general election.

The election swept away a disgraced political order and called into question the future of Achille Occhetto, leader of the former Communist Democratic Party of the Left. "It is inevitable that Ochhetto will become a problem for the strategists of the left," *La Stampa* newspaper said.

Signor Berlusconi's alliance of his Forza Italia party, the neo-Fascist National Alliance and the devolutionist Northern League together won an absolute majority in the Chamber of Deputies with 366 of the 630 seats.

His success was hailed as an impressive achievement, as Forza Italia was founded less than three months ago. There were signs yesterday, however, that he would find it harder than anticipated to forge a government with his perhaps-temporary allies.

Election details, page 15
Alice Thomson, page 17
Diary, page 18

INDEX

Births, marriages, deaths 20
Chess 11,48
Crossword 24
Law Report 39
Leading articles 19
Times Two Crossword 48
Weather 24
TV & Radio 47

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 35; Belgium B Frs 70; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 250; Cyprus C£1.00; Denmark Dkr 16.00; Finland Mkk 15.00; France F 12.00; Germany DM 4.00; Gibraltar 80p; Greece Dr 400; Netherlands Fl 4.50; Irish Republic 45p; Italy L 3,800; Luxembourg 12 60; Madeira Esc 275; Malta 43c; Morocco Dir 25.00; Norway Kr 18.00; Portugal Esc 275; Spain Pes 250; Sweden Skr 17.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.80; Tunisia Din 2.000; USA $3.00.

13
9 770140 046435

From the airline with the most non-stop flights. Even more non-stops.



We now have 5 non-stop morning flights to add to our 7 evening ones - more than any other airline. And you can earn AIR MILES on the way. Call us or your travel agent for details. SINGAPORE AIRLINES

هكذا من الاصل

Rebellious pit bull bites a hole in the Euro-fog

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

It was an unhappy coincidence that Jean Corston (Lab, Bristol E) should have followed Tony Marlow's rebellion yesterday with her Stray Dogs Bill.

For if Mr Marlow (C, Northampton N) is still able to look to the Tory Party as his owner by the rising of the House on Thursday, then this sketchwriter will pledge £10 to the Battersea dogs' home, earmarked for the care of a battle-scarred, ownerless, unmuzzled pit bull terrier.

Tony Marlow, as you will read elsewhere in this paper, interrupted a question and answer session on Qualified Majority Voting with an unabashed call to the Prime Minister for his resignation. What will infuriate the Chief Whip (who greeted Marlow with the bloodless grin we have learnt to fear) was that his act of graceless insolence towards the leader of his party was the only feature of the afternoon which backbenchers could actually understand. It offered journalists a soundbite oasis in a media desert.

I took notes of the discussion. These read:

"Twenty-three votes, *blah*, *blah*, 27 votes, *blah*, 40 per cent, *blah*, 30 per cent, *blah*, *blah*, thresholds and waiting (weighting?), *blah*, 22 votes (*hon members*: What?), 37 votes (*hon members*: WHAT?), 11 countries, *blah*, 15 countries, *blah*, humiliating climbdown, *blah*, 1996, *blah*, *blah*, sorry fiasco, *blah*, 1976 (*Sir P Emery*) (*Hon members*: *WHAT??*), Luxembourg compromise, *blah*, *blah*, 1985, *blah*, Single European Act, *blah*, voting waits (weights?), *blah*, six months, *blah*, jam tomorrow, *blah*, visegrad 4 (vizzigait? busy gran?), *blah*, end of the century (*hon members*: Oh!), *blah*, *blah*, three months, *blah*, no time limit, *blah*, best agreement on offer, *blah*, thoroughgoing review (*hon members*: Ha ha!) . . ."

What sort of a sketch can you make out of that? It is this writer's experience that arguments which do not prosper in a readable 580-word political sketch rarely prosper anywhere else in British politics either.

I left the Chamber with not the least idea whether the compromise the Foreign Secretary has brought back from Greece was an advance or a retreat: but the strongest of hunches that it is beyond explanation where it matters here: in the Commons Tea Room.

Add to that the observation that it has been dictated by foreigners, some of whom do not speak English, and it is plain that the enterprise is hopeless.

Worthy, perhaps, but unworkable. It may be fair, but is it intelligible to people without any special knowledge of politics, like Tory MPs? Tony Marlow's contribution was the opposite: unworthy, but workable; unfair, but oh so horribly intelligible. Read it:

"No objective observer believes this so-called compromise has achieved anything of real value for the United Kingdom. My right hon friend has no authority, credibility or identifiable policy in this vital area.

"Why doesn't he stand aside and make way for somebody else who can provide the party and the country with direction and leadership?"

Accursed clarity amidst the Euro-fog! But there is one response of equal clarity available to a Chief Whip. He can withdraw the Tory whip from Marlow, who would lose his seat at the next election without it. He can tell Marlow that there is just one posture in which, this July, he will be permitted into the Whips' room: on his knees, whimpering, and carrying in his mouth an unblemished record of voting unswervingly for the Government since his suspension.

Forget your 23s, 27s and 1996s. That is language that Marlow's colleagues understand.

High Court throws out 'age rule' escape for child criminals

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

CHILDREN under 14 will be more easily convicted of crimes after the High Court yesterday threw out a fundamental common law rule that the prosecution must prove the child knows right from wrong. In a landmark ruling, two judges removed what they described as an "utterly outrageous" and out-dated legal rule which for decades has protected children from punishment for their crimes.

The rule — that the prosecution must prove that offenders aged 10 to 14 know their actions are morally or legally wrong before they can be convicted — should "no longer be part of the law of England", Lord Justice Mann said.

The prosecution had to prove a child was morally responsible as a condition of guilt, when it was because he was "morally irresponsible" that he had committed the crime in the first place, Lord Justice Mann said.

The rule was highlighted in the James Bulger murder trial in which two boys were convicted of murdering the two-year old. They were both aged ten at the time of the crime.

Lord Justice Mann, sitting with Mr Justice Laws, said that below the age of ten there was an absolute presumption that a child was incapable of committing a crime. But between 10 and 14 there was a "divisive and perverse" presumption in law that a child did not know his or her act was "seriously wrong", as opposed to "merely naughty". The prosecution had the sometimes impossible task of proving otherwise to gain a conviction.

Lord Justice Mann said modern judges had looked upon the rule "with increasing unease and perhaps rank disapproval". It was the court's duty today "to get rid of it".

The historic decision is likely to be contested in the House of Lords. Yesterday Allan Levy QC, an expert in the law on children, said the ruling indicated a disturbing trend. "A lot of discussion has been influenced by the Bulger case. But if one looks beyond the frontiers of Britain, the trend is wholly the other way and in Europe they tend to have a higher age of criminal responsibility."

The Crown Prosecution Service said yesterday it did not believe the ruling would affect a large number of cases. "We are talking about only the more serious crimes committed by children because at the other end of the spectrum cautioning tends to be used."

The judges made their ruling when they dismissed an appeal by a Merseyside boy, referred to as C for legal reasons, against his conviction by Liverpool magistrates in September 1992 for interfering with a motor cycle with the intention to commit theft.



James Bulger: murder trial highlighted rule

Lord Justice Mann said the legal presumption that C did not know his act was seriously wrong was "a serious disservice to our law". "It is precisely the youngster whose understanding of the difference between right and wrong is fragile or non-existent who is most likely to get involved in criminal activity.

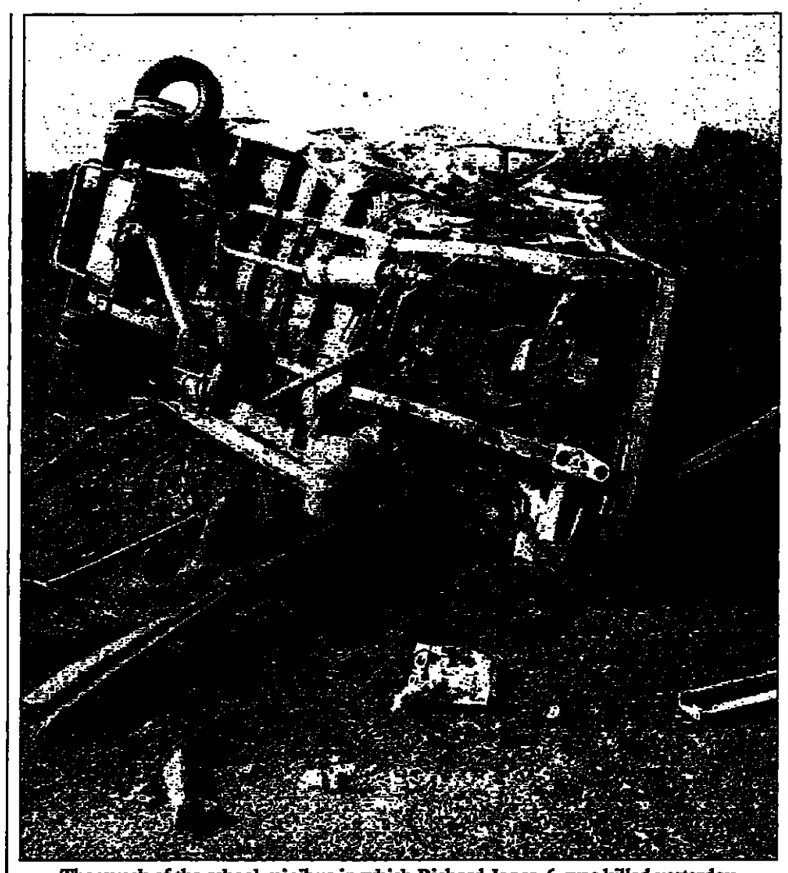
"Yet this outdated and unprincipled presumption is, no less precisely, tailored to secure his acquittal if he is brought before the court. The prosecution are in effect required to prove, as a condition of his guilt, that he is morally responsible — but it is because he is morally irresponsible that he has committed the crime in the first place."

He said it was perverse because it tended to absolve from criminal responsibility "the very children most likely to commit criminal acts".

The modern use of non-custodial sentences designed to be remedial rather than retributive "offers powerful support for the view that delinquents under the age of 14, who may know better than to commit anti-social and sometimes dangerous crimes, should not be held immune from the criminal justice system but sensibly managed within it".

Otherwise they were left outside the law "free to commit further crime, perhaps of increasing gravity, unchecked by the courts whose very duty is to bring them to book".

Law report, page 39



The wreck of the school minibus in which Richard Jones, 6, was killed yesterday

Boy dies in school bus crash

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A BOY of six was killed and eight children injured when a minibus was involved in a head-on collision with a pick-up truck. The accident prompted renewed calls for seatbelts to be made compulsory in school buses.

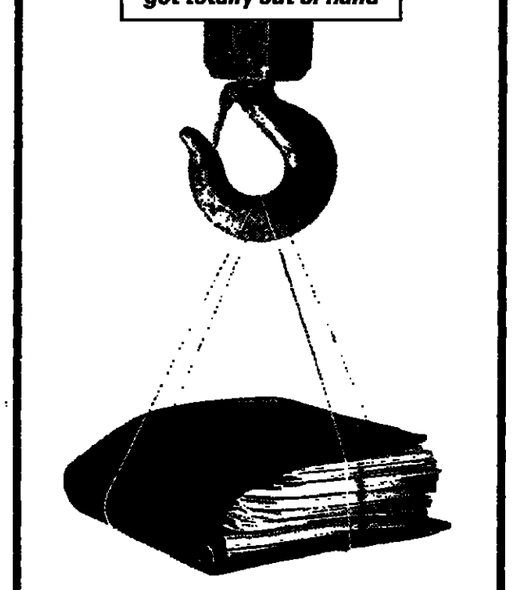
The minibus, which was taking the children to The Alderman Knight School, a special school in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, was fitted with seat belts only for the driver and front-seat passenger. Police said the boy who died, Richard Jones, of Aston Magna, was trapped under the wreckage.

Keith Anderson, head of education for Gloucestershire County Council, said: "Until we have more details we cannot tell whether having belts on the rear seats would have helped."

The accident happened at a crossroads on the B4077 between Ford and Stow-on-the-Wold. The driver, supervisor and eight children aged 5 to 14 were taken to Cheltenham General Hospital. The truck driver had to be cut from the wreckage. He suffered leg and spinal injuries and was taken by helicopter to the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford.

Richard was the second of Jim and Gwendolin Jones's four children. Mrs Jones, 29, said: "Dicky was just as mischievous as any lively six-year-old, who like most children deserved and received a lot of love." He enjoyed playing in the garden with his sisters and brother. He attended The Alderman Knight School for special attention to correct a speech defect.

"My fax-o-file got totally out of hand"



Anyone who needs an address book, diary, and other business and personal data always available will welcome the Psion Series 3 palmtop computer. Unlike pen-pushing systems, it provides instant access to information however it is filed, keeps a growing wealth of information secure without growing in size or requiring repeated entries, and it enables backup copies to be made at the press of a button. It's just one of a thousand and one ways the Psion Series 3 helps you to manage your life.

PSION SERIES 3

For brochure call 071-258 7368 or 071-262 5580. Argos, Alders Dept Stores, Berry of Holborn, Boots, Dixons, Harrods, John Lewis Partnership, PC World, Rymun, Selfridges, Silica, WH Smith, Wallace Heaton, SJS Elrod, Duty Free Outlets and independent computer dealers.

Watchdog says press is free to be partisan

THE Press Complaints Commission has upheld the right of newspapers to adopt a partisan position on issues of public policy (Alexandra Frean writes).

In a ruling published today, the commission rejects a complaint from British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) about two articles in the *Daily Star* relating to safety at the company's reprocessing plant at Sellafield.

The articles alleged that the quantity of nuclear waste stored at Sellafield was sufficient "to create ten disasters like Chernobyl" and "enough to make Britain the nuclear dustbin of the world".

The commission rejects accusations by BNFL that the articles contained serious inaccuracies. To uphold it would amount to supporting the company's arguments on nuclear energy, it says.

This is the first time the commission has ruled on the press's right to be partial. Peter Hill, associate editor of the *Daily Star*, said: "It is vitally important for newspapers to retain the right to be partial. Tabloid newspapers do more to overturn stupid decisions and laws than any other section of the media."

Lord McGregor of Durris, the commission's chairman, says that upholding BNFL's complaint would have been tantamount to preventing the free discussion of important issues of public policy. "The very essence of newspapers is to be partial in circumstances in which they would not deceive anybody that they were reading a partisan account."

Sinn Fein leaders live off benefits

BY NICHOLAS WATT AND CATHERINE MILTON

SCORES of IRA activists and Sinn Fein officials in Northern Ireland survive on social security payments from the "occupying" power they have vowed to remove, republicans said yesterday.

After Gerry Adams won legal aid a leading member of Sinn Fein said that most members of the party lived on income support. Richard Macaulay, Sinn Fein's chief spokesman in the province, said: "Unlike the Tories and others, we don't get paid a wage."

Mr Adams, who last earned an official wage as a barman in Belfast in the early 1970s, defended his dependence on income support. "No one, and you could ask your fellow countrymen and women, lives happily off the British state," he said. "Republicans pay taxes, nationalists pay taxes. I make no apologies."

He is facing an investigation by the Northern Ireland Office into his entitlement to social security benefits after protests from Tory and Ulster Unionist MPs.

Other leading figures in Sinn Fein who also live on income support include Martin McGuinness, who led the party's secret contacts with the Government last year, Tom Hartley, national chairman, Alex Maskey, leader of the Sinn Fein group on Belfast City Council, and Gerard McGuigan, a Belfast councillor who accompanied Mr Adams on his recent visit to the United States, are also said to be claiming benefits, as are the vast majority of Sinn Fein's local councillors.

An observer of the republican movement in Dublin said yesterday: "Their attitude is that if Britain is prepared to pay up they will take the money. They have no principled objection to British money."

As well as benefits, members of Sinn Fein are also said to receive a "top-up" of about £60 a week from republican coffers.

One source claimed that Sinn Fein had a policy of "bleeding" the State by claiming as many benefits as possible. Another said: "This is the only campaign the British have ever fought where they are paying the other side's wages. The police have frequently been able to arrest people when they've turned up to sign on for benefits."

☐ Loyalist paramilitaries launched a rocket attack yesterday on Sinn Fein's press office in west Belfast. The rocket head blew through two walls and landed in a room at the back of the building. Two men from the outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters said they carried out the attack. No one was injured.



Adams: last earned a salary in the 1970s

Dual role for lottery adviser 'incestuous'

BY ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

THE Arts Council's appointment of Peter Gummer, chairman of Shandwick public relations firm, as head of its lottery advisory board, was criticised by the Labour Party yesterday.

Shandwick, the largest PR company in Britain, is advising Rank, the leisure and photocopying group, on its strategy to win the multi-million-pound contract to run the lottery.

As Chairman of the Lottery Advisory Board, Mr Gummer, the brother of John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, will advise the Arts Council on distributing the proceeds from the lottery. He has been a member of the Arts Council since 1991.

Mo Mowlam, Labour's heritage spokeswoman, described this as an "outrageous clash of interest". "The Arts Council is trying to bring the lottery into disrepute by making such an incestuous appointment," she said.

The bids to run the lottery have already been submitted. Oral presentations are expected to take place during the last week of April.

Mr Gummer said that he had no contact with the arm of Shandwick which is advising Rank. He also said that the distributors of lottery funds were totally separate from the operators of the game. "There is no conflict: I am about three levels removed from that particular client, and even if I weren't, the distribution of funds is simply not connected with the operation," he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Howard loses fight for life sentences

The Home Secretary's proposal that murderers of police and prison officers should stay in jail until they die has been rejected. Michael Howard had written to the Prime Minister last week to say he wanted Cabinet backing for an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill now before Parliament, which would ensure that a life sentence for that category of murder would mean life.

Mr Major was understood to be concerned that the move could be counter-productive, creating a violent category of prisoner with nothing to lose, and could be open to challenge in the Court of Human Rights. Mr Major was not at yesterday's Cabinet meeting, but those present decided it would not be right to rush the measure into the Bill.

Policeman stabbed

A policeman briefed to befriend the homeless in central London was recovering in hospital last night after being stabbed by a youth sleeping rough in a doorway. The wound pierced the 28-year-old officer's liver but he is said to be in a stable condition after surgery at St Thomas's Hospital. The incident happened in the Strand on Monday night after the unnamed officer and a colleague from the Metropolitan police homeless squad asked an 18-year-old about a suspected drugs offence. A youth was being questioned at Charing Cross police station last night.

RAF cutback warning

The Government was warned yesterday its decision to withdraw RAF search and rescue helicopters from bases which cover busy sea lanes could cost lives. The Conservative-dominated Commons transport committee said the decision could mean a crucial 30-minute delay in dealing, for example, with a fire on a Wales to Ireland ferry. From July, two Sea King helicopters based at RAF Brawdy, Dyfed, are to go to RAF Chivenor, north Devon, while two other flights, at Manston, Kent, and Coltishall, Norfolk, are to be replaced by one flight from Wattisham, Suffolk.

Jaguar picks Britain

Jaguar is to make its new 160mph sports car in Britain, safeguarding almost 900 jobs in the West Midlands. The decision over the X100, which will replace the 20-year-old XJS model, ended months of speculation that the company would take manufacture to America. Jaguar had looked at a series of overseas sites, particularly in the US, under pressure from Ford, its parent company. Jaguar decided to stick with Coventry after the Department of Trade and Industry promised a £9.4 million grant and local authorities in the West Midlands offered financial help.

Open to question

BBC Radio will no longer guarantee to broadcast live coverage of Prime Minister's Question Time, the corporation has confirmed. It has been moved from Radio 4 to Radio 5 Live, the 24-hour news and sport station, and the BBC said that important sports events would have priority if they clashed with proceedings in the House of Commons.

Group 4 value queried

New targets should be set for the running of Britain's first privatised jail to discover how far Group 4 is providing value for money, the National Audit Office says. A report by the office says there are difficulties in comparing the performance and results of the running of The Wolds remand prison on Humberside with state managed prisons.

Young 'ignore' TV news

Sixty per cent of people aged from 16 to 35 watch no news on television, and of the 30 per cent of television viewers who do watch news programmes from start to finish, nearly 40 per cent are aged 55 and over. An independent research company, using official viewing figures, concludes that television news is the preserve of ageing news "junkies".

Brothers in jail swap

Paul Brown, 24, a prisoner at Walton jail, walked free and is still at large after swapping places with his twin brother, Liverpool magistrates were told. Jeffrey Brown, who admitted aiding and abetting an escape, said he had been forced into the swap after his brother threatened suicide. Brown was bailed to report to police twice weekly.

CPS has Falklands file



Barbara Mills, right, the Director of Public Prosecutions, is to decide whether criminal charges will be brought against British soldiers who allegedly committed war crimes during the Falklands conflict. A Scotland Yard report of a 19-month enquiry was handed to the CPS yesterday with a covering letter explaining that little evidence had been discovered, defence sources said.

Call to check old drivers

Elderly motorists should undergo checks to assess their physical ability to continue driving, a top traffic policeman says. An old person taking medication could be as lethal as a young person driving under the influence of drugs, Supt Malcolm Goodson, head of Norfolk's traffic division, says tonight on the BBC1 programme *Here and Now*.

Teapot brews a record

An electro-plated teapot once used for doll's tea parties sold for £69,000 after fierce bidding at Phillips in London yesterday. It was made in 1879 to a design by Christopher Dresser and originally cost £1 5s 4d (£1.27). The anonymous buyer set a world auction record for a teapot by Dresser, who was inspired by the arts and crafts movement.

Going skiing? Don't forget our bags need packing too. We need 190 units of blood.

TO GIVE BLOOD CALL 0345 711 711
Local call rates apply.

هكذا من الأصل

'I went into her room and you can smell her, sense she is there, but you know she is not coming back'

Father tells of anguish after girl's death in classroom

BY LIN JENKINS

THE father of the murdered schoolgirl Nikki Conroy spoke yesterday of the agony of the hours since his daughter's death as the family recalled details of her life.

Peter Conroy, his wife Diane and their son John, 17, talked through the night after the events at Hall Garth School in Middlesbrough on Monday.

"We never slept. But I went up to Nikki's room last night," he said yesterday. "I walked into the room and you can smell her, you can sense that she is there but you know she is not coming back."

Nikki's room is typical of a 12-year-old girl's. Cuddly soft toys are scattered about by the television and stereo cassette player. Posters of her idols the pop group Take That and film star Patrick Swayze are peppered on the pink walls.

She played trombone in the school band and swam in the school team. French and Latin were among her favourite subjects and she had been due to leave last night on a school trip to France. "She was chatting about France. She was really excited," said Mr Conroy, describing the last time he saw his daughter, at breakfast on Monday. "Her friend called for her and she left for school calling 'Bye, see you later'".

"I can't believe she is not going to come home," he said.

Mr Conroy had taken voluntary redundancy from his job as a BT engineer last Friday and was at home at 11am when two policewomen knocked at the door. They explained there had been an incident at the school. "I said, 'is she OK?' She said no. I knew then she had died."

He smiled at the memory of the last parents' evening at school. "She was so bright. It was almost boring ... good at everything. Just the sort of daughter you would want. She was a popular girl, she worked hard and enjoyed being at school.

"All three of us talked and decided for Nikki's sake we have to pull together and work hard and not let the memory of her down, because she deserves better than that.

"John is shocked, lost. He doesn't know where to go or what to do. We have told him not to bottle it up but let it out. We have to be strong, but there are times you have to let go."

Like any brother and sister Nikki and John, a trainee mechanical engineer, would argue. "But they would defend each other to anybody else," he said.

Mr Conroy said his wife was stunned by what had happened. "It's just horrific. Any death is bad but when you hear of young children being involved ... I'm concerned for the other two girls. It must have been awful for them.

"We know we are in for a very rough ride. It is not like a normal death. There will be an inquest, a court case and funeral. It just keeps coming up again."

Mr Conroy does not blame the school. "If you have guards, you make the schools into prisons and they are not for that. The only way you can protect your children is to be by their side 24 hours a day and they don't have a life."

Among the tributes sent to the family was a card from Geoff Clarke, head of Green Lane Primary School. The card read: "It was a privilege to have had Nikki as a pupil in this school and our memories are all of a delightful, popular girl who will be greatly missed by all who knew her. In this time of grief I would like to express to you the flood of prayers, sympathy and profound sense of loss we are all feeling."

The Conroys yesterday added their own flowers to the many tributes delivered to the school. On a trestle table in the ground floor reception area, a blue and white teddy bear with three daffodils in its paw sat alongside other soft toys and dozens of bunches of flowers.

Emma Winter, 13, allowed home on Monday after stitches to her wound, was yesterday interviewed by police. Her father Jeff said: "We are the ones who have won the pools, we've still got a daughter alive. Our feelings now go out to the parents and friends of Nikki."

He said Emma had been told that her best friend had died. "She's very confused. Everyone is in a state of shock. It is going to take a 13-year-old a hell of a long time to come to terms with it.

"The physical scars will go, but God knows how long it will take for the mental scars to heal."



Nikki Conroy, second right, one row from the back, with her class at Green Lane Primary School, where she was remembered yesterday as a "delightful, popular girl"

Survivor to be bridesmaid

BY A STAFF REPORTER

MICHELLE Reeve, 13, who was stabbed 15 times in her back, chest and arms, was allowed home from Middlesbrough General Hospital yesterday. She spent an hour in the operating theatre on Monday, a three-inch wound having narrowly missed a lung. Doctors say she could easily have died.

Angela Reeve, 33, Michelle's mother, said: "I would like to thank the teachers, especially those who overpowered this man, putting themselves in danger. If they hadn't, who knows how much more harm he could have caused."

Mrs Reeve, who is divorced, intends to marry again in July when her daughter will be a bridesmaid. She was still coming to terms with the attack on Michelle, and did not blame the school in any way.



Michelle Reeve: home from hospital yesterday

She said: "Michelle was remarkably cool right through the ordeal. She has suffered a terrible nightmare but she is quite a strong youngster. As she lay injured outside school, the only thing she was bothered about was going on the school trip to France. She didn't realise how badly injured she was.

"All three of the girls were due to go away with the school for a few days so they could practise speaking French. They were really looking forward to getting away together and then this tragedy which no one could have foreseen happened." Michelle suffered multiple stab wounds to her chest and back that needed stitching. She was not told about her best friend's death until she was allowed out of hospital.

Michelle, who will return to hospital tomorrow for a check-up, has been swamped with cards, flowers and cuddly toys, many from strangers. "We want to thank people for their generosity and kind thoughts," Mrs Reeve said.

Fortress schools rejected

CLEVELAND has promised a review of security in its schools but will not restrict access or put up fences. Education officials say they do not want to see classrooms turned into prisons.

Two years ago, a trial project to make a primary school in one of Middlesbrough's inner city areas more secure was dropped after three months when it was condemned by parents, pupils and governors.

The county's education committee chairman, Keith Legg, said: "It was a project funded by the Department for Education to provide some form of protection against vandals. We put in intruder alarms, closed circuit surveillance cameras and electronic doors, but after only a few months we realised it was wrong. Everybody, from the children to the headmistress, wanted them taken out."

Mr Legg doubted that such measures would have prevented Monday's killing. "This school has a theatre, an adult education centre. At the back there is a sports centre with a swimming pool. These are very public buildings which are used by lots of people other than school children."

He added: "This is a one-off. I am convinced of it. I doubt very much if anything like this will happen elsewhere in the country."

He rejected suggestions that security systems such as panic buttons installed in over a hundred schools in Newcastle upon Tyne should be adopted.

Mavis Grant, head of the Mary Trevelyan primary in Cruddas Park, Newcastle, said: "No one wants to see schools turned into fortresses, but you have to remember the safety of the children and the staff. The panic buttons give me much more confidence about handling any other dangerous situation."

Counsellors on hand for return

BY PAUL WILKINSON AND LIN JENKINS

TEACHERS and counsellors will today begin helping the pupils of Hall Garth school come to terms with Monday's attack.

Peter Smith, the headmaster, insisted his 1,000 pupils return to school to confront the trauma before dispersing tomorrow for Easter.

"Our first task will be to strip away the fiction which might already have grown up around the event," said Frank Brown, head of Cleveland's social services children's department. "Then they will be asked to discuss their feelings. We must show them it is a natural reaction to have nightmares, to be frightened, to feel insecure, to be physically sick."

Counsellors from the education and social services departments have already visited the homes of pupils who were in the classroom when Nikki was stabbed to death, offering help to children and parents.

Teachers went back to the school yesterday for their own counselling, meeting educational psychologists and social services staff who talked them through what happened.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



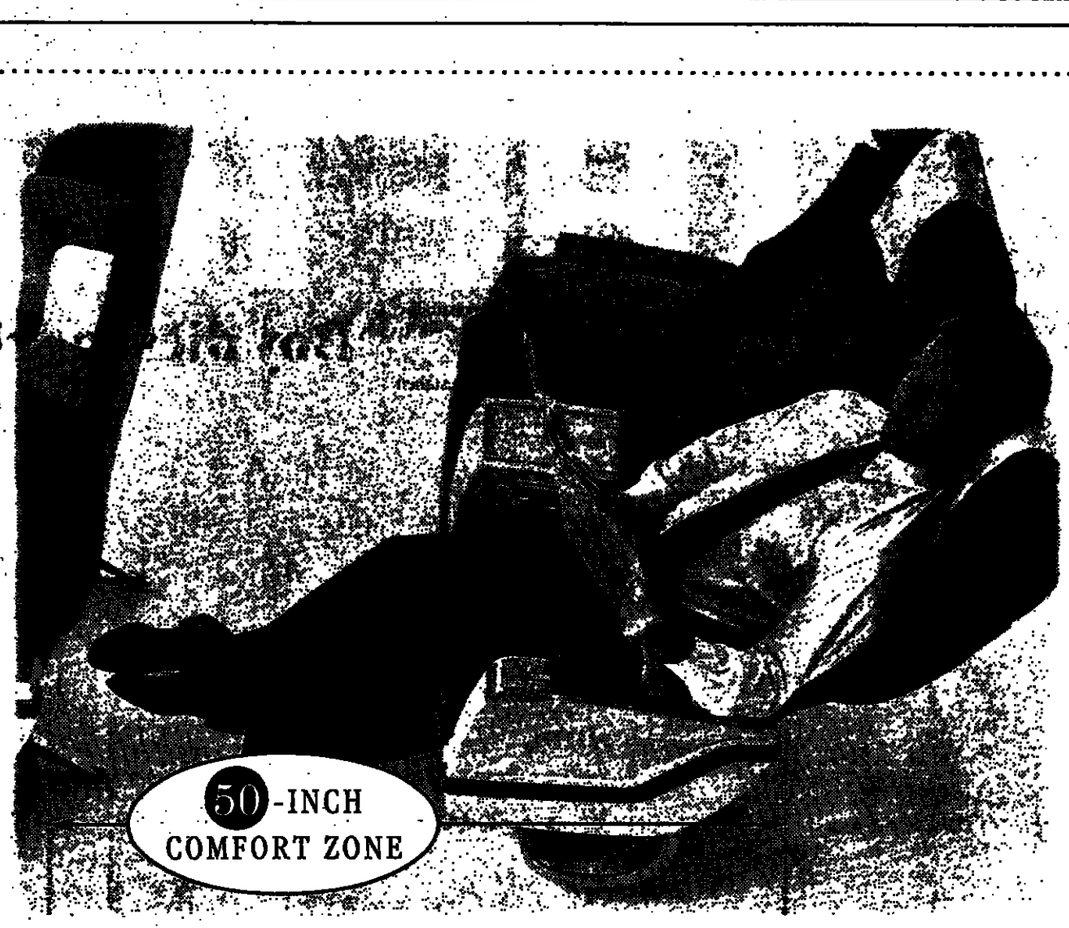
Their pectorals are their portfolio, their aim five minutes of fame

TOM QUIRKE WATCHES WOULD-BE GLADIATORS IN THE

MAGAZINE

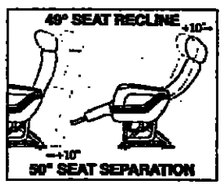
PICK UP YOUR SIXTH CONUNDRUM CLUE, AND THE CHANCE TO WIN A CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY FOR SIX IN

WEEKEND



ANA introduces space travel.

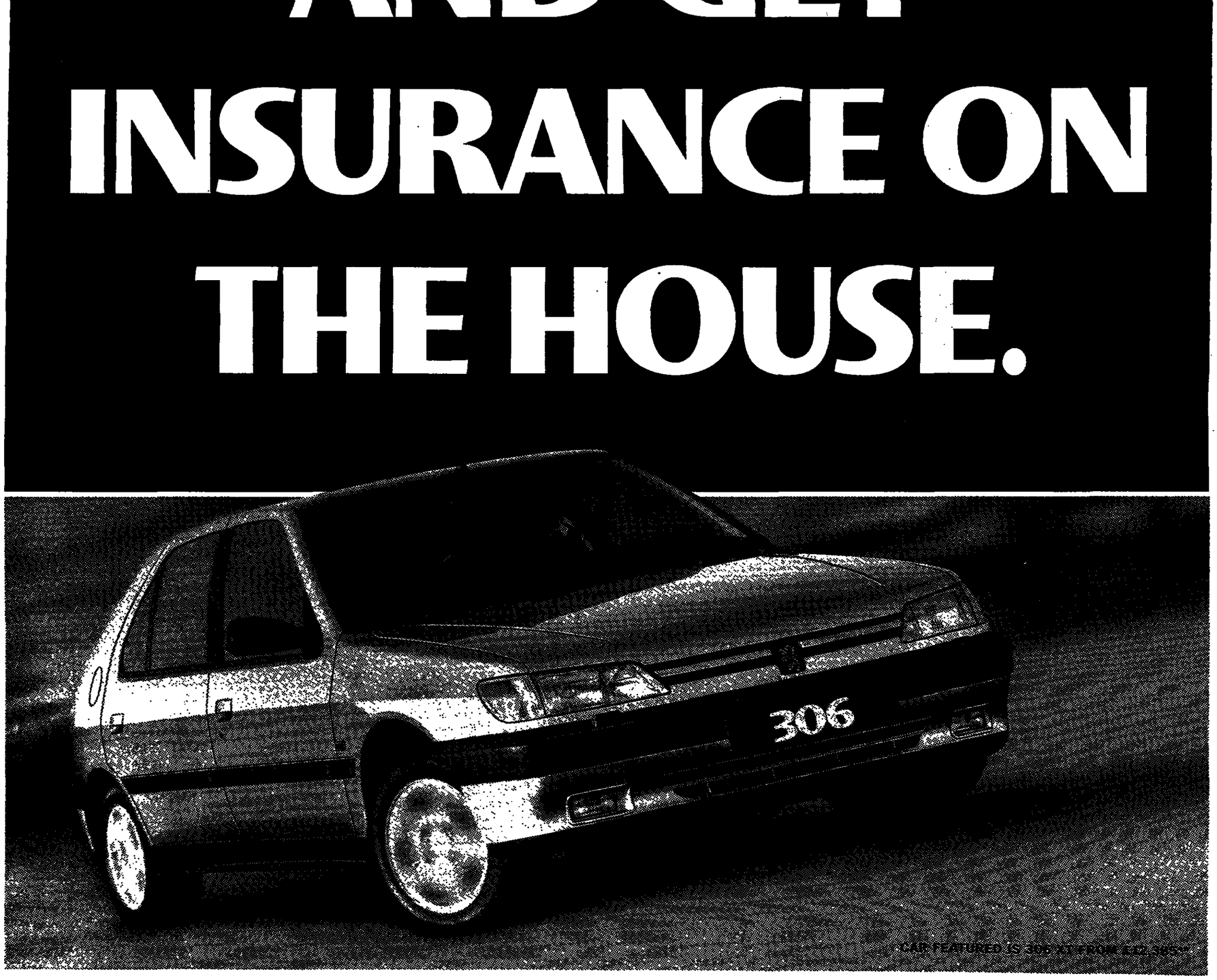
Space. You need a lot of it to travel in total comfort.
So CLUB ANA, the world's preeminent business class, is increasing your personal travel space by 25%. That's an additional ten inches of legroom, creating a full 50 inches between seats. We're further expanding your degree of comfort by increasing seat recline from 39 to 49 degrees.
A luxurious space in which to fully enjoy CLUB ANA's other fine amenities: a personal television, CD audio programs, gourmet cuisine. And of course, the excellent service and personal attention of our dedicated cabin attendants.
CLUB ANA introduces space travel March 20 on daily London - Tokyo flights – all on spacious 747-400s – and will follow soon with introductions on Frankfurt-Tokyo and Paris-Tokyo flights.
Fly CLUB ANA.
Where you have the space to travel in total comfort.



ANA
All Nippon Airways
JAPAN'S BEST TO THE WORLD

DON'T MISS THE ANA ONE-FOR-ONE FREE TICKET OFFER!
Fly First Class or CLUB ANA 3/29 - 3/31 and get a free CLUB ANA ticket.
CLUB ANA expanded-comfort seating, some amenities, and free ticket offer are restricted to certain routes.
For reservations or more information, contact All Nippon Airways or your travel agent.
ANA House, 6-8 Old Bond Street, London W1X 3TA Telephone: (071) 355-1155

BUY A PEUGEOT 306 AND GET INSURANCE ON THE HOUSE.



CAR FEATURED IS 306 XT FROM £12,305††

We're not offering to insure the family silver, but we will cover something equally valuable, the new family 306.

Free fully comprehensive insurance is available to all drivers aged between 21 and 75. And extends to most models in the range.*

From the 306 XN, at just £9,710 on-the-road,** to the sporty D Turbo.

Passport, Peugeot's personal finance scheme, THE PEUGEOT 306. DRIVES THE IMAGINATION.

FREE INSURANCE*

- 21-75 YEARS OF AGE.
- 3 OR 5 DOOR.
- PETROL OR DIESEL.

EXAMPLE: 306 XND 1.9 DIESEL 3 DOOR	PASSPORT PRICE††	DEPOSIT (20%)	ONE PAYMENT ON SIGNING THE AGREEMENT	AMOUNT FINANCED	FINANCE CHARGES	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	35 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	GUARANTEED FUTURE VALUE†/FINAL PAYMENT	CUSTOMER APR
3 YEAR PASSPORT	£10,289.00	£1,662.76	£120.14	£7,026.18	£2,330.74	£12,347.74	£120.14	£4,900.00	12.5%

All figures are based on a new 306 XND 1.9 Diesel 3 Door model with an agreed mileage of 6,000 p.a. †A £25.25 fee is payable on signing a sales agency agreement if you require this option. Further charges may be made subject to mileage, condition and if the vehicle is not returned on time. (Excess mileage charges range between 3.5p and 8.5p per mile as agreed at the time of purchase.) The sales agency option expires if the vehicle is not returned within 30 days from the end of your finance agreement.

will also help keep your assets intact, putting you on the road from just £120.14 per month plus deposit, final payment and one payment on signing the agreement. (APR 12.5%).

WHAT CAR? CAR OF THE YEAR 1994

Naturally a car without a premium will be at a premium. So call our information line now on 0500 306 306, or visit your local Peugeot dealer.

PEUGEOT

INSURANCE OFFER APPLIES TO DRIVERS AGED 21-75 YEARS HOLDING A FULL DRIVING LICENCE FOR ONE YEAR OR MORE. ORDERING AND REGISTERING A NEW 306 (*EXCLUDING XS: AND S16) BETWEEN 25/3/94 AND 31/5/94. INSURANCE OFFER APPLIES TO PRIVATE SALES ONLY (EXCLUDING MOTABILITY AND PERSONAL EXPORT SALES). OFFER DOES NOT APPLY TO DRIVERS CONVICTED OF MAJOR DRIVING OFFENCES AS STIPULATED BY THE INSURER (LANDMARK INSURANCE CO. LTD) IN THE LAST 3 YEARS PRIOR TO PURCHASE. OFFER DOES NOT APPLY TO N. IRELAND. FULL DETAILS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. **ON THE ON THE ROAD PRICE INCLUDES DELIVERY TO DEALERSHIP AND NUMBER PLATES, BUT EXCLUDES ROAD FUND LICENCE. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM PSA FINANCE PLC, VERNON HOUSE, SICILIAN AVENUE, LONDON WC1A 2QQ. AVAILABLE TO OVER 18'S ONLY, SUBJECT TO STATUS. A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED. PASSPORT AND INSURANCE OFFERS ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR VEHICLES USED FOR COMPETITION, HIRE, REWARD, OFF ROAD USE, OR BY A DRIVING SCHOOL. ††PASSPORT PRICE SHOWN IS ON THE ROAD PRICE INCLUDING 12 MONTHS ROAD FUND LICENCE. EXTENDED WARRANTY AND FULL AA COVER. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRINT. CAR FEATURED INCLUDES EXTRA COST OPTIONS OF ALLOY WHEELS AND FRONT FOG LAMPS

Passion and poison killer loses appeal

BY RICHARD FORD AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

A THEORY that a surgeon's wife did not die because of an overdose given by her husband was rejected by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The judges rejected as "theoretical" new medical evidence suggesting that Margaret Vickers died from a condition caused by inhaling food.

They agreed with an expert medical witness called by the prosecution that the theory was "fanciful", especially as there were no similar cases in medical literature.

"The fresh evidence which we have heard raises no doubt in our minds about the cause of Mrs Vickers's death or the correctness of the jury's verdict," Lord Justice Rose said in a two-hour judgment.

He added that CCNU, an anti-cancer drug administered in excessive doses by her husband for no therapeutic reason, had caused damage to Mrs Vickers's bone marrow and hypoplastic anaemia which had contributed to infection and death.

Vickers, 59, formerly of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, was jailed for life at Teesside Crown Court in 1981, with a recommendation that he serve at least 17 years.

He was a member of the British Medical Association's ethical committee and had ambitions to stand as a Conservative candidate for the European Parliament. But he was arrested after police were tipped off by his mistress, Pamela Collison, a former beauty queen who was briefly a research assistant to Michael Heseltine. The case became known as the poison and passion trial.

Miss Collison, now 46, was cleared of murder but received a six-month suspended sentence for obtaining drugs on false prescriptions. At a previous appeal hearing, she was described as a *femme carnale* by her lover's counsel.

She sold her story to the *News of the World*, posing seductively for photographs and explaining why she had chosen the "shy, fumbling, mean, scrimping and untidy" man from the "rich, debonair and dishy men" who queued at her door to take her out. "I decided to kiss the frog and see what happened," she said.

Miss Collison, who has not married and lives with her parents in New Barnet, north London, went on to claim that the consultant orthopaedic surgeon was a Dr Crippen who also tried to poison her with CCNU.

She and Vickers had had a passionate affair and in 1978 the surgeon consulted his solicitor about a divorce and asked his political agent what effect it might have on his prospects. Miss Collison alleged that Vickers saw his wife as a bar to his ambition to be an MEP.

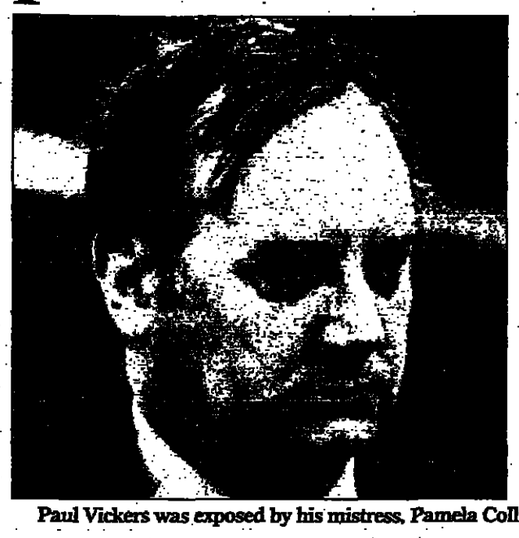
At the original trial, the prosecution said that between September 1978 and May 1979, CCNU was obtained by Vickers on prescriptions made out in the names of friends of Miss Collison. He claimed he gave his wife the drug because she believed she had a brain tumour, but he did not tell doctors about the CCNU when she was admitted to hospital. When first interviewed by police in 1980, he denied writing the prescriptions and said he did not know what had happened to the tablets.

No one at his trial, not even Vickers and his defence team, questioned the cause of death. But a body of opinion that the original cause of death was wrong built up over the years, led by Professor Laurence Henry, who is distantly related to Vickers by marriage.

At the appeal, however, the prosecution produced evidence from five experts. It said Mrs Vickers died either through a final dose of CCNU or by an accumulation of earlier doses. Her bone marrow was "virtually destroyed".

David Gray, the surgeon's solicitor, said there may be an appeal to the House of Lords. Vickers said in a statement that there remained people who would fight the injustice.

Clive McKeag, solicitor for Miss Collison, said yesterday: "She has been trying to put this matter behind her ever since the trial. The appeal has prolonged her ordeal."





Paul Vickers was exposed by his mistress, Pamela Collison, who was described in court as a "femme carnale"

The Scott enquiry

Trefgarne denies doctoring rules

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

ALLEGATIONS that ministers and officials "secretly doctored" the Government's arms export guidelines to boost sales of defence equipment to Iraq are without foundation, Lord Trefgarne, the former defence and trade minister, said yesterday.

At no time during his period as minister for defence procurement in 1986-89 were the arms export guidelines "ever changed", Lord Trefgarne told Lord Justice Scott's enquiry into the arms-to-Iraq affair.

He said that during a meeting in December 1988 between Alan Clark, then a trade minister, William Waldegrave, then a Foreign Office minister, and himself, it had been agreed that officials should be "authorised" to apply the export guidelines "more flexibly".

Lord Trefgarne insisted, however, that since the "essential policy, and indeed the wording of the guidelines was not changed", there was no need for Parliament to be notified of the ministerial decision to apply the guidelines with greater discretion. He did not, "either on my own or with others, attempt to secretly doctor the guidelines for some improper purpose".

The arms export guidelines, which were drawn up by Geoffrey Howe in October 1984, and announced to Parliament in December 1985, were designed to prohibit the sale of all lethal equipment and any other equipment that could "enhance or exacerbate" the war between Iran and Iraq.

The enquiry has already heard, however, that the three ministers agreed on a new wording for the third of the Howe guidelines, which was intended to allow more dual-use equipment to be exported.

The new wording was meant to be used by officials as a "temporary working premise" alongside the original wording, until a formal agreement on the change had been agreed by ministers. But it had been implemented by the officials responsible for vetting export licence applications.

Sword mob attacks brothers

A man was stabbed in the back with a sword and his brother beaten up after a mob of up to 20 youths stopped their car by placing a tree in a road near their home.

The men, both in their mid-20s, were pelted with stones in the Halton Moor area of Leeds and one of the brothers was hit repeatedly round the head with the baseball bat.

The stabbed man's condition was described last night as serious but not life-threatening. Detectives said there appeared to be no motive for the attack.

Lead scare

Stocks of capsules containing propolis, claimed to assist the body's immune system, are being withdrawn after they were found to have an illegally high lead content.

Boy, 4, dies

A four-year-old boy at High Greave nursery school, Rotherham, has died from meningococcal blood poisoning after contracting meningitis.

Ferry arrests

Twenty-six illegal immigrants were found in the back of an Italian container lorry being driven ashore from a ferry at Dover.

Britain bubbles

Britons drank 663,594 bottles of champagne in January compared with 555,000 in January 1993, a rise of nearly 20 per cent.

Sex swap plan

Planners in Bournemouth are to consider an application to turn a former sex shop into a pregnancy crisis centre.

Gloucester police use radar in field dig

BY RICHARD DUCE

AN exhaustive murder investigation switched yesterday from a house in Gloucester to a village field 15 miles away. A ten-strong police excavation team is concentrating its efforts on Letterbox field, a mile from the former Much Marcle home of Frederick West, who is charged with murdering nine women over the last 21 years.

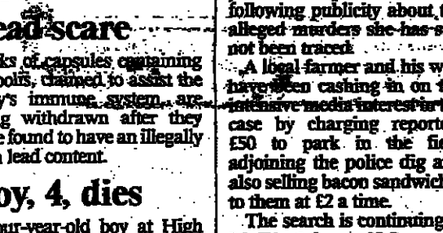
Mr West, 52, lived in the village with Catherine Costello, his first wife, and despite police attempts to find her following publicity about the alleged murders she has still not been traced.

A local farmer and his wife have been cashing in on the intensive media interest in the case by charging reporters £50 to park in the field adjoining the police dig and also selling bacon sandwiches to them at £2 a time.

The search is continuing at Mr West's home, 25 Cromwell Street, where the remains of nine young women, including Mr West's 16-year-old daughter Heather, have been discovered.

Ms Costello has not come forward despite national publicity and extensive police enquiries which have spread to Coatbridge, Lanarkshire, where she was thought to have returned 15 years ago after the marriage broke down. Mr West's teenaged daughter by that marriage has also not been traced for the same length of time.

The search at the field site has made use of a radar device which was brought in during excavations at Cromwell Street. Mr West is in custody and will appear before Gloucester magistrates again early next month.



"ALARMING THE NUMBER OF BURGLARIES IN TOWN THESE DAYS."

"IS THAT WHY STEPHENS BROTHERS PUT GUARD BUTTONS ON ALL THEIR CUFFS?"

Stephens Brothers LONDON

ATTENTIVELY MADE SHIRTS FROM £37.50

Available at: Austin Reed, Formum & Mason, Harrods, John Lewis, Liberty, Savoy Taylors Guild, Selfridges and other decent places.

YOU TAKES YOUR CHOICE. YOU SAVES YOUR MONEY.

As the UK's leading independent mobile phone company, Peoples Phone has a unique range of tariffs designed to save its customers money.

With no less than ten tariffs to choose from, one of them is certain to be exactly what you're looking for.

THE LONDON TARIFF
15p. The Cheapest Peak Rate Calls In London!
Ideal for the businessman living and working within the M25. It offers the cheapest peak rate calls in London – in fact 40% cheaper than some other business tariffs.
CHEAPEST PEAK RATE CALLS

THE BUDGET TARIFF
Ideal for customers who don't use their phone regularly throughout the UK, and whose usage varies from one month to another.
£15 MONTHLY LINE RENTAL

THE LOW-USER TARIFF
£12.77 MONTHLY LINE RENTAL
Ideal for people not really certain how they're going to use their phone but who suspect it won't be very much. This tariff represents excellent all-round value.

THE EMERGENCY TARIFF
Monthly Line Rental Only £9.99 (incl. VAT)!
£9.99 MONTHLY LINE RENTAL
Specially designed to keep costs down for people who want the reassurance of a phone, but don't intend to use it very often. In an emergency you can dial any number you need FREE up to a maximum of £3 worth of calls per

THE BUSINESS TARIFF
Ideal for the larger business with a consistently high level of calls to make both inside and outside the M25. Unlike other business tariffs, inside the M25, we charge in half minute increments after the first minute.
SAVE UP TO 24% ON CALLS

THE SMALL BUSINESS TARIFF
£10 Worth of Free Calls Every Month!
This tariff allows growing companies to focus on their businesses – not on their bills. And unlike some of our competitors' offerings, FREE calls can be made at any time, anywhere in the UK.
£10 FREE CALLS MONTHLY

THE PROVINCIAL TARIFF
SAVE 20% ON CALLS
Lowest peak rate calls outside the M25 – with national coverage. Perfect for the business user who rarely needs to make calls in the London area.

Please send me more details on Peoples Phone handsets and airtime packages, and my FREE Tariff Guide.

TITLE INITIAL

SURNAME

ADDRESS

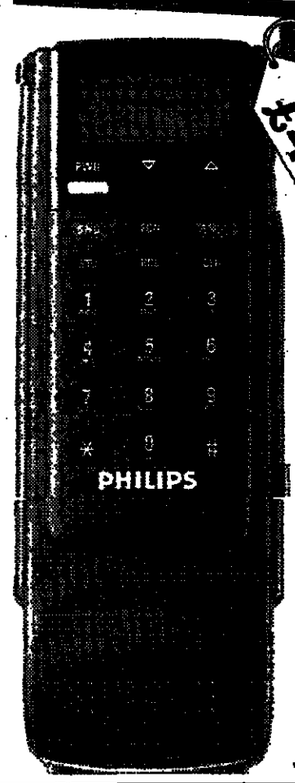
POSTCODE

TELEPHONE NO.

Please return to Peoples Phone, Dryden House, The Edge Business Centre, Humber Road, London NW2 6EW. T30/3B

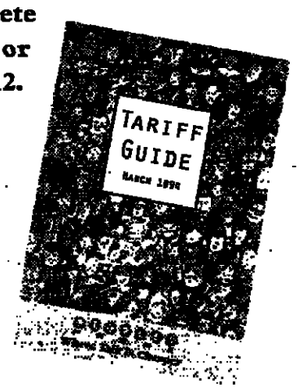
PEOPLES PHONE
Where Talk is Cheaper

Peoples Phone is a registered trade mark of The Peoples Phone Company Plc.
All prices exclude VAT at 17.5% except where otherwise stated. Free calls are subject to a monthly maximum amount, which is dependent on the tariff chosen. Prices from £99 include VAT at 17.5% on consumer tariffs.



Phones From £49*

All our money-saving tariffs are clearly explained in the new Peoples Phone Tariff Guide. To get your FREE copy visit any Peoples Phone outlet, complete the coupon, or call 0345 10 11 12.



*Price excludes VAT at 17.5% on a Business Tariff.

Auditor to question Porter in public on vote-fixing claim

BY TONY DAWE

DAME Shirley Porter is expected to appear before a lengthy public enquiry into the alleged vote-rigging activities of Westminster Council. Two months of public hearings — the longest held into such matters — are planned.

Letters giving details of the hearings have been sent to Dame Shirley, a former council leader, and nine other councillors and officials accused of wasting £21 million of public money on a "disgraceful and illegal" house sales policy.

The enquiry is likely to embarrass the Government, as Westminster has always been regarded as a flagship Tory council. It will coincide with the findings of the Scott enquiry into ministerial links with the arms-for-Iraq affair.

The Westminster enquiry will form another chapter in a saga that began in 1987, when the council selected homes in marginal wards for sale in the hope of replacing traditional Labour-voting tenants with potential Tory-voting homeowners.

The policy, known as "designated sales", was introduced after the Conservatives had come close to losing control of the council in the previous year's local elections.

Earlier this year, John Magill, the district auditor, described the policy as "unlawful, unauthorised and to the detriment of the interest of local taxpayers" in a provisional report after a 4½-year investigation.

Although the auditor has yet to decide formally whether the hearings will be in public, most of those criticised have said they want the chance to put their case openly.

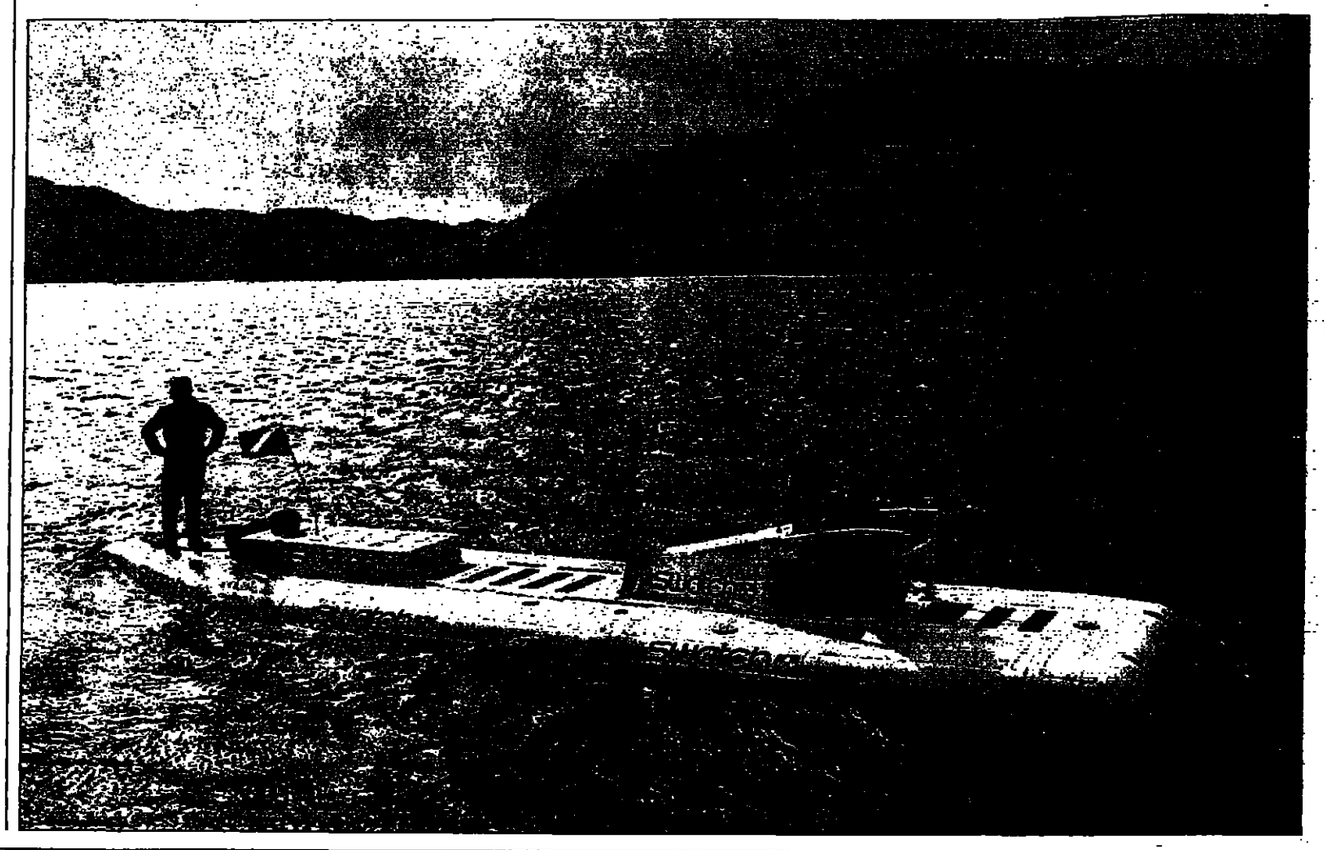
After the hearings, Mr Magill will prepare a final report and decide whether to apply to the High Court to have the ten councillors and the officials ordered to repay the costs of their policy and the councillors disqualified from holding local authority office. In his provisional report, Mr Magill decided that the responsibility must be shared by Dame Shirley, David Weeks, her deputy, Barry Legg, then chief whip and now MP for Milton Keynes South West, Peter Hartley, then housing committee chairman, and two other leading councillors, Dr Michael Dutt and Judith Warner.

He also found four officials guilty of "wilful misconduct" for their part in the plan: Bill Phillips, former chief executive, Graham England, housing director, Paul Hayler, divisional housing director, and Robert Lewis, former deputy solicitor.

Dr Dutt committed suicide shortly after the findings were made public.

Mr Magill will preside at the hearings and invite those criticised in his report and those who raised objections to the council's policy to present their cases.

Public asked to pay £68.50p for underwater tour of loch



Loch Ness submarine offers depth charge

BY JENNY SHIELDS

IT IS billed as the ultimate monster hunt. But first you have to squeeze through a narrow conning tower, climb down a ladder and settle into a tiny submarine cabin. It is not for the claustrophobic.

Not that I'm a nervous traveller, you understand. But the prospect of diving to the depths of the 750ft Loch Ness and coming face to face with you-know-who ... it's bound to make a girl reach for her seasickness pills.

I plumped for the seat at the front for the trip through the murky waters of Europe's deepest freshwater loch. The man with his hands on the controls was Gordon Swindells, a submariner for more than 20 years and full of quiet, reassuring murmurings.

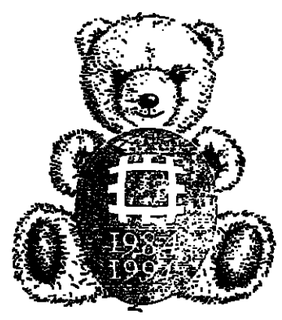
Which is just as well, because from Friday, the public will be paying £68.50p a time for the privilege of being scared stiff. Mr Swindells said: "When the lid closes, we will be in the dark except for the light from the instrument panels. I don't switch on the exterior headlights until we are at our cruising depth of 300 feet."

Prospective passengers — 500 have already made advance bookings — will be glad to know there is a thorough safety briefing.

Peering out of the front window and into the pea soup-coloured water, I could not make out a thing, but Mr Swindells painted a vivid picture of the underwater life. It was almost enough to tempt me deeper than the depth of ten feet where I sat, firmly attached to the quay.







ENGLISH HERITAGE
IS
10
YEARS OLD
ON EASTER SATURDAY
APRIL 2
WE ARE OPENING ALL OF
OUR HISTORIC PROPERTIES
FREE
TELEPHONE OUR TENTH ANNIVERSARY
HOTLINE
071 973 3396
FOR INFORMATION ON PROPERTIES
& EVENTS FOR ALL THE FAMILY
ENGLISH HERITAGE

Schools defy NUT boycott of tests at 11

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE boycott of compulsory testing was in doubt last night after three quarters of primary schools requested papers for new tests for 11-year-olds.

Almost 14,000 schools have ordered sets of the voluntary paper and pencil tests in English, mathematics and science as part of the first national pilot of the controversial mini-examinations.

The response, which could lead to 450,000 pupils sitting the tests, is the first clue to support for the National Union of Teachers' continuing boycott of government tests for pupils aged seven, 11 and 14. Last summer, there was widespread disruption of testing, but two other teaching unions have since scaled down their action after ministers agreed to slim the curriculum and streamline tests.

However, testing at 11 remains a potentially explosive issue. Critics claim that the policy marks the return of the 11-plus by the back door. Although John Patten, the Education Secretary, dropped plans for national school league tables based on test results at 7 and 14 as part of the peace deal with teachers, he is insisting they go ahead for primary schools next year when the tests for 11-year-olds become compulsory.

This summer, pupils aged 11 will sit papers totalling four hours 15 minutes, with extra tests available to stretch the brightest.

In English, pupils will take a ten-minute spelling test including words such as "illuminated", "particular" and "reference". They will face a 50-minute reading comprehension test, based on prose and poetry contained in a magazine, and have 45-minutes to write an imaginative essay.

There are two mathematics papers, lasting a total of one hour 15 minutes, which concentrate on arithmetic. For example, pupils will be asked to find the cost of 42 salad sandwiches at 56p each without a calculator.

The two science papers, totalling one hour 15 minutes, will test pupils' knowledge of subjects such as the weather, forces and materials.

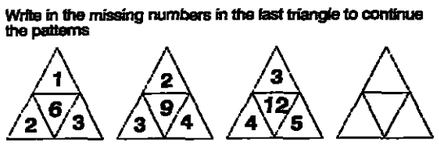
Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "Teachers are naturally curious. We have advised teachers to boycott the tests but that does not mean they do not want to see for themselves what they are about."

☐ Most state schools are breaking the law by failing to teach religious education or provide a daily act of worship, according to a report by the Office for Standards in Education published yesterday.

PILOT TESTS FOR 11-YEAR-OLDS

MATHEMATICS

Write in the missing numbers in the last triangle to continue the patterns



Explain how you worked out the missing numbers

You could write letters in the spaces like this

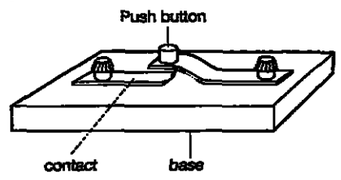


Then the rule is
"You find out what N is by adding A, B and C together."
Write the rule without using words.

Answer: N=A+B+C

SCIENCE

Here is a picture of a switch



You have to make the base, the contact and the push-button for the switch

You can use these materials.
wood plastic brass steel

Complete these sentences with the name of one material you could use

a. I would make the base using.....

b. I would make the contact using.....

c. I would make the push-button using.....

Answer: a: wood or plastic b: brass or steel c: plastic or wood

Advice curb 'will add to pupil pregnancies'

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

MORE teenage girls will become pregnant unless rules prohibiting teachers from giving advice on contraception are changed, health organisations said yesterday.

A survey found four out of five pupils aged 13 to 15 would talk to teachers about contraception but three out of five would not if they thought their parents would be told.

From next September, sex education will be compulsory in schools but parents will have the right to withdraw their children. Draft guidelines say that giving an individual pupil advice without parental knowledge could amount to a criminal offence. Doreen Massey, director of the Family Planning Association, said: "We believe these guidelines will deprive young people of vital information. We urge the Education Department to change them so young people can turn to the people they trust for advice."

Ms Massey said she supported publication of *The Pocket Guide to Sex*, withdrawn by the Health Education Authority. "Young people need information and they are not getting it. The book is one attempt to fill that gap."

Alan Coren, page 18

DIAL 100 AND ASK FOR
FREEPHONE INKJET!
Stylus 800 £240 EX. VAT* *Average retail price
TOO GOOD TO COST SO LITTLE! EPSON

Weather-beaten but unbowed, rower celebrates

BLAKE SELL



Lone oarsman Peter Bird is hugged by his girl friend Polly Wickham in San Francisco after his failed attempt to row across the Pacific from Vladivostok to America. Bird, 47, from Fulham, southwest London, spent 304 days at sea, an endurance record for a solo rowing boat, before being picked up by a ship and taken to Japan. He was down to one day's supply of food when he gave up, defeated by adverse winds and currents

Edinburgh plays host to Beethoven

BY ALISON ROBERTS, ARTS REPORTER

A SEASON of Beethoven is the highlight of this year's Edinburgh Festival, featuring all nine symphonies, the five piano concertos and the composer's only opera.

The largest arts festival in Europe also sees the opening of the Edinburgh Festival Theatre, converted from the Empire Theatre, which will enable large-scale opera, dance and drama productions for the first time. Brian McMaster, festival director, yesterday described the new theatre as "the realisation of a long cherished dream".

Many of the big names in international theatre return to Edinburgh. Peter Stein's seven and a half hour production of Aeschylus's *Oresteia* is performed by a Russian cast; Robert Lepage's new work, *The Seven Streams of the River Ota* has been devised in Tokyo, is based in Hiroshima, and will have its world premiere at Edinburgh.

Lovers of experimental theatre are well catered for. Luc Bondy makes his festival debut with a production of a wordless play by Handke, while two major foreign language productions of Shakespeare take place under German directors.

But the Beethoven season is this year's big attraction. Orchestras and conductors taking part include the Cleveland Orchestra conducted by Christoph von Dohnányi, Sir Charles Mackerras conducting the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and the London Philharmonic with Bernard Haitink.

Richard Goode, Alfred Brendel and Piotr Anderszewski perform a number of the piano sonatas and Scottish Opera stage *Fidelio*, Beethoven's only opera greeted with huge acclaim at the Royal Opera House last year.

The dance programme is one of the largest ever presented at the festival and includes work by the Miami City Ballet and Mark Morris leads his Canadian dance group.

The highlight of the season for visual art lovers will be found at the National Gallery of Scotland where an overview of landscape painting in late 19th century and early 20th century France juxtaposes work by Monet, Braque, Cézanne, Gauguin and Matisse.

HOW GOOD ARE YOUR EMPLOYEES?
YOU COULD BE BE MISSING SOMETHING.

For example, 'be' wrongly appears twice in the above headline.

North West Water Limited operates one of the largest water and waste water systems in Britain. Despite this, new challenges lay ahead.

North West decided to use National Vocational Qualifications as a way of bringing the skill levels of its staff up to cope with new advances in technology.

Individual employees are now assessed to nationally recognised standards, developed by employers and backed by Government.

As a result, the training they receive can be directly targetted towards areas most in need of improvement.

Within the company, National Vocational Qualifications have exposed some gaps in knowledge and unlocked potential.

Training Manager, John Birch says, "Our staff were already highly skilled, but NVQs have played an important part in improving productivity and performance still further." Can your business afford to miss that?

For more information about the NVQ system (or SVQ in Scotland) please telephone the number below.

EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT GROUP

QVTIM/7

0345 66 55 88 MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

هكذا من الاصل

CSA 'failing needs of single mothers'

BY EMMA WILKINS

■ Nearly a year after its foundation, the Child Support Agency is being urged to solve its 'maddening inefficiencies'

THE Child Support Agency is failing to provide adequate maintenance for single women and their children, the National Council for One Parent Families said yesterday.

Sue Slipman, its director, attacked the agency's "maddening inefficiencies" and claimed that some mothers were worse off after being assessed. Ms Slipman, who was presenting a report into the agency's performance since it was founded almost a year ago, said she had received 3,500 enquiries from lone mothers and studied 150 cases in detail for the report.

Only a tiny minority of lone parents had received maintenance since the CSA was founded, according to the report. Some women were receiving just enough maintenance to deny them state benefits and were losing extra allowances, including free school meals and milk, Ms Slipman said.

At a meeting in the House of Commons yesterday, Ms Slipman urged the agency to secure a better future for Britain's 2.2 million children who lived in lone parent families.

While absent fathers have organised vocal opposition to the agency, lone mothers were reluctant to thrust their children into the limelight for positive publicity. Ms Slipman said. Some of the agency's failures could be explained by its maddening inefficiencies but also by a tacit campaign of non-cooperation by many absent parents," Ms Slipman said.

The agency can ask employers to deduct unpaid maintenance at source, or take a father to court. The ultimate sanction for fathers who refuse to pay is six weeks' imprisonment. "We recommend that the CSA shows a greater commitment to using these enforcement powers as soon as it becomes obvious that the absent parent is failing to co-operate," the report says.

Linda Sunderland, 44, lives near Scarborough with her three children aged 13, 10 and 4. She separated 18 months ago, was divorced six months ago and is currently being assessed by the CSA.

She firmly believes in the principle that absent fathers must be made financially responsible for their children. "Until the CSA arrived, women like me were almost invisible, forgotten and alone," she said. "I am looking to the CSA for stability of maintenance. If my ex-husband fails to pay, it won't be left up to me to prove him guilty, as it was under the old courts system."

Alastair Burt, junior minister for Social Security, said the CSA had arranged maintenance in nearly two thirds of its cases and successfully traced 19,000 absent parents. Welcoming the report, he said: "Its comments will receive careful attention."

SIMON WALKER



Linda Sunderland: "Until the CSA arrived, women like me were almost invisible"

Water shortage threatens future of nation's health

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

LARGE areas of Britain face acute water shortages and near-permanent hosepipe bans unless water companies act to cut leaks and support widespread installation of meters.

By 2021, demand could have risen by an average of 25 per cent — and 43 per cent in the South of England — threatening public health and putting pressure on rivers, lakes and wildlife, the National Rivers Authority said yesterday. The findings are contained in *Water: Nature's Precious Resource*, the authority's strategy document on how water needs can be met over the next 30 years.

Lord Crickhowell, chairman of the authority, said the nation faced some stark choices as it entered the next century. He said that moving huge amounts of water via complex networks of pipelines, rivers, canals and pumping stations would be costly and damaging to the environment. The vast acres of reservoirs needed to store the water would also be costly and would rob some areas of cherished nature sites.

The key to curbing the damage was in managing the nation's water resources better. He said: "By reducing waste, we can postpone the need for costly land-hungry storage schemes. The recent years of drought have brought home that it is irresponsible to waste water. It is not just a matter of convenience ... there is a growing anxiety about damage to the natural environment."

The authority announced that water companies would be issued with new abstraction licences only if they proved they were plugging leaks and installing an economic number of meters in homes and businesses.

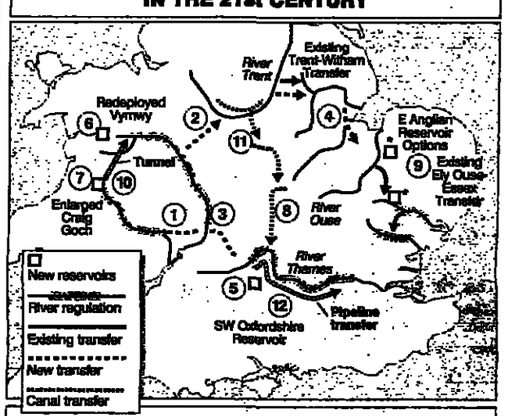
If the levels of leaks and metering remained the same over the next 30 years, the Thames region faced a daily deficit of 867 megalitres a day (Ml/d) or about 25 per cent of the current daily supply, the authority said. Anglian faced a deficit of 195; Severn Trent, 577; and Yorkshire 261. Leaks account for 12 to 38 per cent of current water losses.

To restrict the rise in consumption, a third of all homes in regions such as Anglian and Severn Trent would have meters and leaks would be severely reduced. That would mean Thames needed only an extra 56 Ml/d and Anglian 35. Yorkshire would need no new supplies at all.

Jerry Sherriff, head of water resources at the authority, said several schemes were being proposed to meet these moderate deficits. The most ambitious would transfer water from the Vyrnwy reservoir in Powys to the River Thames, via a pipeline from the bottom of the River Severn, with a 3,500-acre reservoir built near Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

□ The Environment Department was cleared yesterday by the High Court of failing to take adequate steps to reduce pesticides in drinking water. Mr Justice Schiemann rejected a claim by Friends of the Earth that the department had not done all legally required to ensure that water companies complied as soon as possible with EC standards.

SOLVING ENGLAND'S WATER SHORTAGE IN THE 21st CENTURY



1. River Wye to River Severn, with regulation of the Wye from Craig Goch Reservoir
2. River Severn to River Trent transfer
3. River Severn to River Thames transfer
4. River Trent to East Anglia
5. South West Oxfordshire Reservoir*
6. Redeployment of Vyrnwy Reservoir
7. Enlarged Craig Goch Reservoir - would be used to regulate either River Severn or River Wye
8. Canal transfer to the River Thames
9. East Anglian Reservoir
10. Tunnel from Craig Goch to River Severn
11. Birmingham Groundwater
12. River Severn to London pipeline

* Proposed. Source: National Rivers Authority

8 INTO £14,075 WILL GO



YOU CAN WITH A NISSAN

NISSAN

Economists are baffled by the Nissan Serena. Mathematicians stymied. How can this handsome people carrier carry 8 handsome people yet start at only £14,075 for the LX model with power steering and then go on to just £15,675 for the luxury SLX version with additional refinements such as electric front windows, central locking and twin electric sunroofs? Can there really be a multiple choice of 1.6 and 2.0 litre petrol or diesel engines at such ridiculously low prices? And what sort of nifty geometry allows an 8-seater to park with ease in a space that would squeeze a 4-seater saloon? Call into your local Nissan dealer or telephone 0345 800 600 for more information and everything will fall neatly into place.

SERENA

MODELS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. PRICES EXCLUDE DELIVERY PACKAGE OF £425 (COMPRISING DELIVERY TO DEALER, NUMBER PLATES AND FULL TANK OF FUEL).



Where NVQs in Accounting ensure competence, there's AAT.

Ensure your finance and accounting support staff are fully competent in today's fast changing, competitive environment.

The Association of Accounting Technicians' qualification incorporates standards of competence devised in consultation with employers and demonstrates exactly what Accounting Technicians can do for you.

These practical work based units lead to NVQs in Accounting, Levels 2, 3 and 4. The AAT's qualification is available at Approved Assessment Centres throughout the UK. As a professional body, AAT encourages members to continue their post qualification training to ensure they remain up to date and repay your initial investment.

Find out how AAT can help you. Fill in the coupon below or call Gareth Jones now on: 071-814 6994.

Professionals in Accounting

POST TO: Gareth Jones, Association of Accounting Technicians, 154 Clerkenwell Road, London EC1R 5AD.
Please send me further details of how the AAT can help me:

Name Position

Address

Tel: Fax

T/30/3/94

AAT

'ater shortag
reatens futur
nation's heal

ENGLAND'S WATER SHORTAGE IN THE 21st CENTURY



here NVQs
Accounting
ensure
mpetence.
ere's AAT.

ents in Accounting

Buying a house isn't a crime, so why does it carry a 25 year sentence?

Because that's the term most mortgages run for. But there's no need to serve such a long stretch. With Yorkshire Bank's Flexible Payment Mortgage you can pay off your loan years earlier and in the process save yourself thousands of pounds in interest. For instance, on a £50,000 mortgage, by simply increasing your payments a mere £1.50 a week, you'll pay off your mortgage 7 years earlier and save yourself over £19,000 in interest. (If you need to, you can reduce the level of your payments whenever you like, at no cost.)

Call in to your nearest branch for a free computer demonstration. It won't take very long.

Yorkshire Bank. For Mortgages.

THE EXAMPLE GIVEN ABOVE COMPARES THE FLEXIBLE PAYMENT MORTGAGE WITH A STANDARD YORKSHIRE BANK REPAYMENT MORTGAGE OF THE SAME AMOUNT AND TERM. TYPICAL EXAMPLE A STANDARD 25 YEAR REPAYMENT MORTGAGE OF £50,000 AT AN INTEREST RATE OF 7.65% (APR 8.2) 300 GROSS MONTHLY PAYMENTS AT £378.73. THE TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE £113,869.40. CALCULATED TO INCLUDE AN ESTABLISHMENT FEE OF £150 AND ESTIMATED SOLICITORS' FEES OF £100.40 BUT EXCLUDING ANY INCOME TAX RELIEF. BY COMPARISON A FLEXIBLE PAYMENT MORTGAGE OF £50,000 OVER 17 YEARS 9 MONTHS AT AN INTEREST RATE OF 7.65% (APR 7.9) 213 PAYMENTS COMMENCING AT £390.32 IN THE FIRST YEAR AND INCREASING AT 1.5% PER YEAR TO £502.65 IN THE FINAL YEAR. TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE £94,272.82. THE FLEXIBLE PAYMENT MORTGAGE MUST BE REPAID BY THE BOR... BIRTHDAY. YORKSHIRE BANK MORTGAGES ARE AVAILABLE SUBJECT TO STATUS AND APPLICANTS MUST BE AGED 18 OR OVER. YOUR REPAYMENTS MAY CHANGE EACH YEAR AS A RESULT OF ANY ALTERATION TO THE MORTGAGE INTEREST RATE OR THE RATE OR STATUTORY LIMIT FOR INCOME TAX RELIEF. THE APR'S ARE VARIABLE RATES CORRECT AT 29/3/94. PAYMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO TAX RELIEF AT THE APPROPRIATE RATE, THE RATE OF 20%... WILL BE APPLICABLE FROM APRIL 1994. IF THE AMOUNT BORROWED EXCEEDS 80% OF THE PROPERTY PURCHASE PRICE OR VALUATION (WHICHEVER IS THE LOWER) A FURTHER ESTABLISHMENT FEE IS PAYABLE. FULL WRITTEN QUOTATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. SECURITY IN THE FORM OF A LEGAL MORTGAGE OVER THE PROPERTY AND OVER A SUITABLE LIFE POLICY DESIGNED TO REPAY THE MORTGAGE IN FULL IN THE EVENT OF YOUR DEATH IS NEEDED... SECURITY IN THE FORM OF A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED. THE MAXIMUM ADVANCE IS 95% OF PURCHASE PRICE OR VALUATION, WHICHEVER IS THE LOWER, AND UP TO 3 TIMES YOUR MAIN ANNUAL INCOME PLUS THE AMOUNT OF YOUR PARTNER'S INCOME. YORKSHIRE BANK MORTGAGES ARE PROVIDED THROUGH A SUBSIDIARY COMPANY - YORKSHIRE BANK HOME LOANS LIMITED, 20 MERRION WAY, LEEDS LS2 8NZ.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Heseltine set to be winner in Euro-row

By Philip Webster and Nicholas Wood

EIGHTEEN months ago he was out for the count politically; nine months ago he was physically broken. Yesterday Michael Heseltine, the coal fiasco and a heart attack behind him, was being spoken of openly at Westminster as the next Conservative Prime Minister. The unpredictability of politics has rarely been more graphically illustrated.

In the view of many Tory MPs, the President of the Board of Trade will become the ultimate beneficiary of the shambles over European Union voting rights. As one senior Tory put it: "It's hung firmly around the neck of the Prime Minister. He's in the dock for first raising expectations and then dashing them. Michael's simply being loyal and consistent."

When the Conservatives look elsewhere for a leader after the expected humiliation of the European and local elections, say such supporters, Mr Heseltine will be seen as the man most likely to give them a chance of winning another general election. The Conservative electoral college, made up of 332 MPs, is interested in nothing else.

If Mr Heseltine is to take the crown, he will do so because he has been forgiven. Many of those voting for him will be the people who stopped him last time when he went so close to toppling Margaret Thatcher, but instead paved the way for John Major.

This time Mr Heseltine has no machine waiting to spring into action. He seems to have distanced himself from the lieutenants of his last joust — Michael Mates and Keith Hampson. However, Richard Ottaway, his assiduous parliamentary aide, is not above singing his praises, and Neil Hamilton, one of his junior ministers, keeps open lines to the right. If a campaign is needed, it will not take long to organise; over-zealousness is the greatest hazard today.

That does not mean, however, that Mr Heseltine has been inactive. The once implacably hostile right is beginning to be won over. A lunch with Michael Portillo, the young pretender of the right; dinner on Monday night with the leading Euro-sceptics Michael Spicer and Sir Peter Tapsell, and the pro-European Jim Lester.

As one MP put it: "Members are now saying openly that Heseltine is the only man who can win through for us ... Seasoned backbenchers say the mood is reminiscent of the last days of Thatcher. You would expect that kind of talk from the Euro-sceptics, but we are now hearing it from people who would normally be so loyal to the Prime Minister that they would defend his every action."

The president was one of the few Cabinet ministers to oppose any reduction in the age of consent for homosexuals from 21. He has modified his once fervent Europeanism into a fierce defence of British interests. He is attempting the one big privatisation that Lady Thatcher baulked at: the Royal Mail. Right-wing former ministers such as Edward Leigh have been singing his praises. Thatcherites in the Government are pushing his claims. To some, he may never be one of us, but the ranks of the irreconcilables are dwindling.

Mr Heseltine, Kenneth Clarke and Douglas Hurd are the three big men in the Cabinet. Mr Hurd, Mr Major's most important ally, no longer has leadership ambitions and may soon leave the Cabinet. Mr Clarke appears to have been losing ground, but remains a serious runner. According to friends he is too laid-back; some are trying to convince him that a leadership fight may be just around the corner and that he should be doing more.

When the two of them paraded their wares before the Conservative faithful in Plymouth on Saturday it was no contest. Mr Clarke, after a speech of minimal content, won a polite reception. Mr Heseltine, locks flowing as of old, made an unashamed pitch for the leadership of the radical right.

Mr Heseltine is like a batsman nearing his century. One rash stroke could be his undoing. He must guard against that as well as the kind of unplayable delivery that has laid him low in the past.



Faltering Leader gives ammunition to his enemies

John Major is in deep trouble. The issue is no longer 23 or 27 votes on the Council of Ministers, but his leadership of the Tory Party. That did not require Tony Marlow's typically truculent exhibitionism in the Commons yesterday. His remarks may have dramatised the Prime Minister's predicament and provided vivid sound bites for the evening news bulletins. But they were a distraction. What really mattered, however, was the sullen faces of Tory backbenchers sitting behind Mr Major. He is fast losing their confidence.

Mr Major's handling of the dispute — and his unconvincing and faltering Commons performance yesterday — has revived all the doubts about his leadership which surfaced during the Maastricht saga. The problem has not been his objective of seeking a more decentralised European Union, which is widely shared, but the inconsistencies of his rhetoric and tactics. Mr Major's uncompromising language last week over qualified majority voting looked unsustainable. He annoyed pro-Europeans, while failing to win the respect, or support, of Euro-sceptics. Unless Britain was prepared to hold up enlargement of the EU, a compromise was always likely along the lines which the Cabinet has now endorsed. So Mr Major was unnecessarily raising the stakes on an issue he was never likely to win outright.

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Once the compromise was produced over the weekend, and backed by Douglas Hurd, the Cabinet was likely to fall into line. The Foreign Secretary could not be repudiated. Even so, some flimsy-sounding assurances had to be produced from Brussels that the health and safety provisions of the single-market legislation would not be used to circumvent Britain's opt-out from the social chapter. No one at Westminster seemed impressed. The four main Cabinet Euro-sceptics, and particularly John Redwood, expressed their doubts and quickly made them known to the press. But they accepted that this was not the time for a full-scale confrontation. That could come soon enough.

Mr Major has achieved the opposite of what he intended. Instead of appearing a man of principle, he looks a vacillator. Instead of appearing strong, he looks weak. Last night MPs were talking not about European voting rights but about his future. The doubts were coming not just from the partisans on either wing of the European debate but from the uncommitted mainstream of the party: MPs who regard Mr Marlow as a tiresome maverick but who are now increasingly disillusioned with Mr Major.

The Cabinet heavyweights — Mr Hurd, Kenneth Clarke, Michael Heseltine and David Hunt — last night rallied around Mr Major. For all the dissent of the right, there is no plot against him in the short term. But that may not help him in the long term. He has been left increasingly exposed.

Nothing is likely to happen in the immediate future. Mr Major is lucky that MPs leave Westminster tomorrow for their ten-day Easter recess. That may give him a temporary respite. When they return, the local election campaign will be under way and the worries of MPs may be suppressed, at least publicly, while the battle is fought with Labour and the Liberal Democrats.

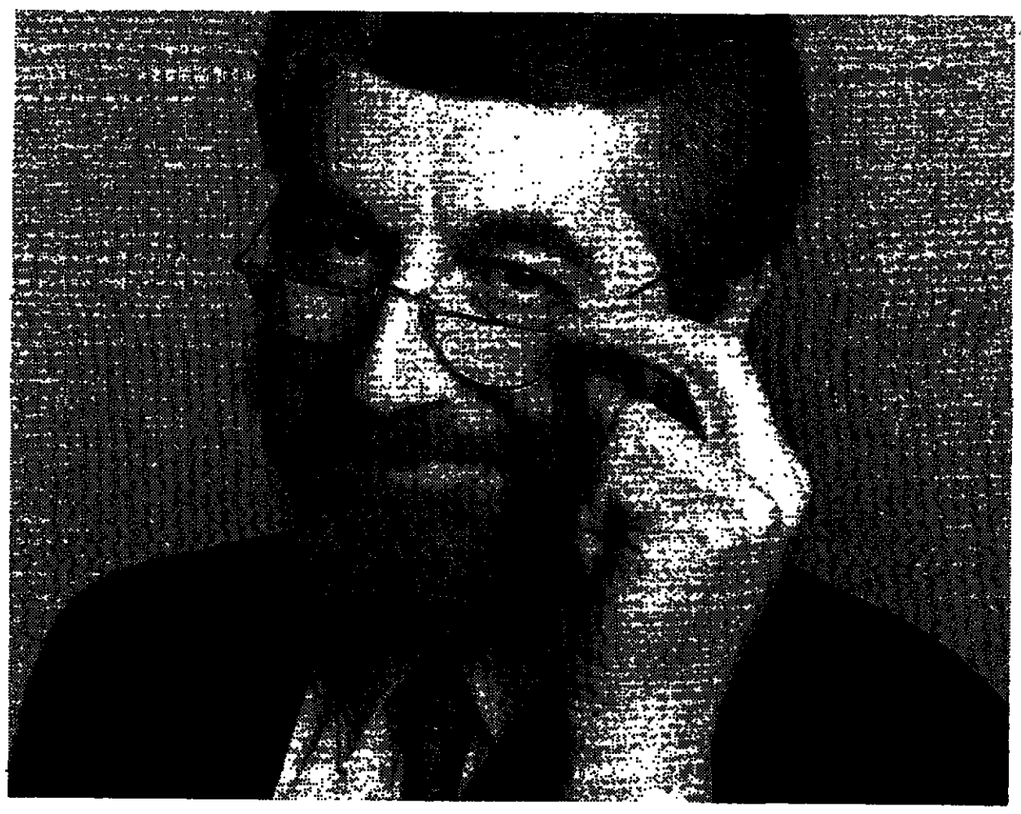
These elections — for local authorities on May 5 and for the European Parliament on June 9 — provide a crucial, and possibly last, chance for Mr Major to restore his authority.

He has proved to be a resilient and resolute fighter in the past, notably during the election campaign two years ago. He came from behind then, surprising his opponents and his own party. He could do so again. The difficulty this time is that the Tories face sizeable loses, particularly in the Euro-elections. MPs openly speculate about how bad the outcome will have to be — say the Liberal Democrats winning more seats than the Tories — for Mr Major to be forced out of Downing Street. Mr Major is determined not to be pushed out by media pressure, but it is not the press which should worry him. It is his Cabinet and backbench colleagues.

Until now, most senior ministers have believed that Mr Major will survive this summer's elections and lead the Tory Party into the next general election. That assumption is now being openly questioned. Mr Major's condition is not yet terminal, but he has been gravely weakened.

Peter Riddell

LIMITED OFFER



Adrian Hale, Nationwide Manager New Business.

"Our Guaranteed Investment Bond Direct gives you the potential of Stockmarket growth with your capital guaranteed."

Nationwide's Guaranteed Investment Bond Direct is a five year investment which offers a return linked to the FT-SE 100 Index. Guaranteed Investment Bond Direct offers you:

- The opportunity to link your savings to the performance of the top 100 companies on the London Stock Exchange.
- A return equal to 133⅓% gross (100% net for basic rate tax payers) of the percentage increase in the FT-SE 100 Index at the end of the 5 year term. This is calculated as the average return over the last 6 months of the term, beginning on 6th May 1994 and ending 6th May 1999.
- No management fees or charges.
- A 1% bonus on your initial capital to be invested in the Bond when investment commences on 6th May 1994. You will receive interest at 4.80% gross p.a. (3.60% net p.a.) from the date of the Society's acceptance of your investment until 5th May 1994.
- Security – although we can't guarantee the performance of the FT-SE 100 Index, even if there is no return we can guarantee that whatever happens your initial capital will be returned to you in full.

Funds will only be available for a limited period, and the offer will end once the Bond is fully subscribed. We cannot guarantee all applications will be successful so early application is strongly advised. You can open a Guaranteed Investment Bond Direct with £1,000 or more. Once opened you will not be able to make any withdrawals nor can the account be closed until the end of the term. Nationwide's Guaranteed Investment Bond Direct is not available through our branches. For an information pack giving full details about building for tomorrow, call us free on **0800 100103 quoting reference TMSA2** lines open 24 hours a day, seven days a week or fill in the coupon.

Nationwide
THE 'BUILDING' SOCIETY.

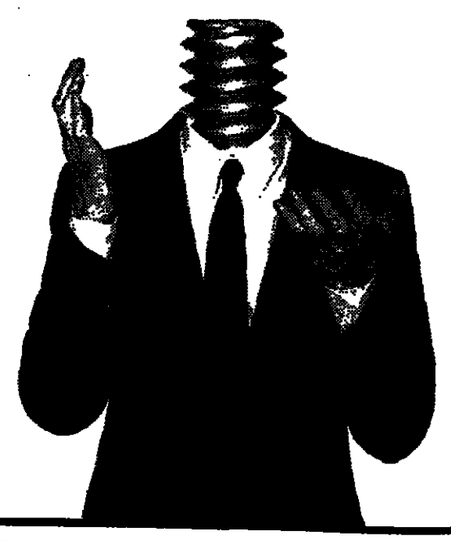
For a Guaranteed Investment Bond Direct information pack return this coupon to the Central Savings Department, Nationwide Building Society, FREEPOST (BS4335), Bristol BS1 3YX. (For a faster reply please attach a stamp), or call FREE on **0800 100103 quoting reference TMSA2.** Are you an existing Nationwide customer? Yes ☐ No ☐

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss)_____ Address_____

Postcode _____ Tel No._____

The FT-SE and Footsie are joint trade and service marks of the London Stock Exchange (ISE) and the Financial Times Limited, neither of which endorse this product. The FT-SE 100 Index is the proprietary interest of the ISE and has been licensed for use by Nationwide Building Society. Cheques paid in will earn interest from the third working day (excluding weekends and Bank Holidays) after receipt. Nationwide is a member of the Building Societies Ombudsmen Scheme and subscribes to the Code of Banking Practice. Nationwide Building Society, Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon 1, SN38 1NW.

"I must admit I tend to forget things"



For people with busy schedules and a 101 things on their mind the Psion Series 3 palmtop computer is a personal assistant that makes sure nothing is overlooked. Unlike knots in handkerchiefs, diaries, and reminder notes, it helps to prioritise jobs, audibly and visibly reminds in good time of appointments and things that need doing, and stores every scrap of useful information you require for recall even years later. It's just one of a thousand and one ways the Psion Series 3 helps you to manage your life.

PSION SERIES 3

For brochure call 071-258 7368 or 071-262 5580. Argos, Allders Dept Stores, Berry of Holborn, Boots, Dixons, Harrods, John Lewis Partnership, PC World, Ryman, Selfridges, Sifica, W.H. Smith, Wallace Heaton, SIS (Excel, Duty Free Outlets and independent computer dealers.

Major accused of climbdown over blocking vote deal

BY ROBERT MORGAN, POLITICAL STAFF

TORY MPs sat stony-faced and silent in the Commons yesterday as the Prime Minister explained the deal on European voting that the Cabinet had endorsed earlier in the day.

He faced allegations of climbdown and retreat from the Opposition, but only dyed-in-the-wool Euro-sceptics voiced the unease on the Tory side. Mr Major strove to reassure his interrogators that the compromise deal was good for Britain. "The Cabinet has concluded that our objectives on enlargement and qualified majority voting have been sufficiently achieved," he told MPs. The United Kingdom could accept "this interim proposal".

He emphasised that the blocking minority voting arrangements among European Union governments would be reviewed "root and branch" at the intergovernmental conference in 1996.

Mr Major admitted that he would have preferred a blocking minority of only 23 votes, but sought to assure MPs that 27 was acceptable in view of the concessions Britain had won. A higher figure of 27 could be in Britain's interests when it came to isssues such as the reform of the common agricultural policy.

He brushed aside a call to resign from **Tony Marlow** (C, Northampton N). Mr Marlow said: "As of now, the Prime Minister has no authority, credibility or identifiable policy in this vital area of policy. Why does he not stand aside and make way for someone else who will provide the party and the country with direction and leadership?" Mr Major retorted that it was time Mr Marlow supported the Government he was elected to support.

Opening the exchanges, **John Smith**, the Opposition Leader, said that Mr Major had had to perform a humiliating climbdown. "However he seeks to camouflage his retreat from his vainglorious assertions of no surrender last week, the Government has accepted a minority of 27."

Fear of warring factions in the Tory Party had propelled the Prime Minister "into an unwise conflict which he could not and did not win". The conflict had caused unnecessary and severe damage to friendly countries with no advantage to Britain.

Mr Major replied that Mr Smith had overlooked the fact that Britain had achieved a series of concessions that would not have been available "if we had adopted Labour's position of accepting, without let or hindrance, 27 for all areas immediately".

"We have not achieved the maintenance of the blocking majority of 23. I would have ideally preferred that. But neither have the other member states achieved what they would have wished — for we have obtained concessions particularly that protect our most vulnerable flank on social affairs."

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat Leader, said the Prime Minister had to explain why today he asked Tory MPs to celebrate what last week he had told them was unacceptable. He welcomed the deal "even if it was arrived at by accident" that would help to reform the CAP and speed enlargement. No amount of clever words or verbal gymnastics can hide the fact that the Government has made a fool of Britain in Europe, the Cabinet has made a fool of the Foreign Secretary, and the Prime Minister has, frankly, made rather a fool of himself."

Edward Leigh, a former Tory minister, sought an assurance that the directives Britain did not accept could be delayed indefinitely. He said there was well-founded concern that the Government had conceded 27.

Mr Major said that the length of the delay would depend on discussion. If necessary Britain could take the matter to the European Court, which might take years, or invoke the Luxembourg compromise. "If we feel it necessary to do that we will take one or both of those actions."

Nicholas Budgen (C, Wolverhampton SW), a leading Euro-sceptic, complained that in Europe it was always jam tomorrow. After Maastricht they were promised no further moves towards federalism. "We have suffered this defeat. We have seen that our opt-out in respect of the social chapter is eroded, and we are now told that in 1996 all will come right. At some stage the British people who say to their Government: 'You must say no and mean it'."

John Wilkinson (C, Ruislip, Northwood) and another sceptic, asked the Prime Minister to "dispel any residual doubts" and spell out the points of principle that the Government was prepared to "courageously and consistently" to make a stand on.

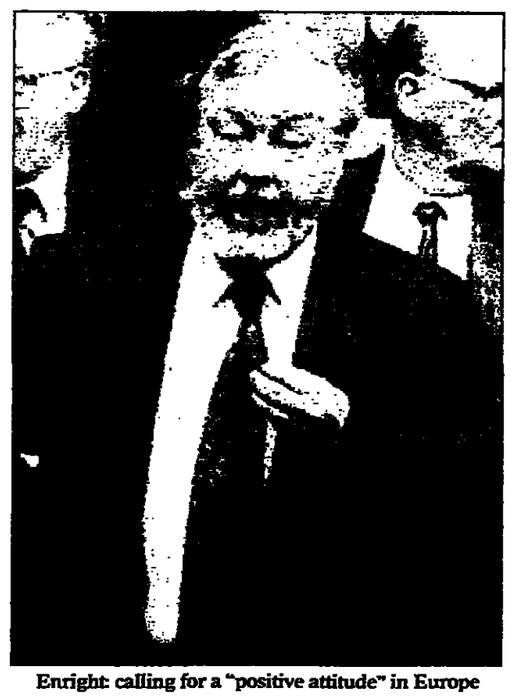
Mr Major replied: "We were unprepared to accept the social charter, similarly the maintenance of the national veto is a matter of principle for us."

Derek Enright (Lab, Hemsworth), said it was time the Government took a positive attitude "in Europe, with Europe and for Europe".

Matthew Parris 2
No guarantee 12
Simon Jenkins 18
Woodrow Wyatt 18
Leading article 19



Leigh: seeking reassurance in the Commons yesterday



Enright: calling for a "positive attitude" in Europe

Lib Dems reverse pledge to raise tax

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Liberal Democrats have abandoned their pledge to raise income tax by a penny to pay for better education, it emerged yesterday.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat Leader, has decided that his party cannot go into the forthcoming by-elections or the local and European elections as the only party advocating higher tax increases.

Officials were last night trying to play down the climbdown, which was revealed by David Chidgey, the party's candidate at Eastleigh. Mr Chidgey said the pledge was no longer necessary because of the Tory tax rises. Party sources made it clear that the Liberal Democrats would still increase spending on education by £1.8 billion, the equivalent of a penny on income tax. However, the money would be found within existing resources rather than by raising income tax, they said.

Sources close to Mr Ashdown said the party would hope to find the money by reallocating priorities and delaying paying off the public sector deficit, instead. "We would spend *the product* of a penny on income tax on education," an official said.

Challenge from rebel with many causes

BY ALICE THOMSON
POLITICAL REPORTER



Marlow: "I think he will be gone before long"

JOHN Major must have felt ill when Tony Marlow rose in the House yesterday and called for his resignation. This is not because he respects Mr Marlow or because the MP for Northampton North has a high standing in the party. But Mr Marlow was one of the first Tories to call for Margaret Thatcher's resignation.

To Labour whoops of delight, the Euro-sceptic Mr Marlow told a fuming Mr Major: "No objective observer believes this so-called compromise has achieved anything of real value to the UK. As of now my right honourable friend has no authority, credibility or identifiable policy in this vital area. Why don't you stand aside and make way for somebody else who can provide the party and the country with direction and leadership?"

Speaking to reporters afterwards, Mr Marlow said: "This confrontation with Brussels was supposed to be a major attempt to fight for Britain's interests. But if a leader goes into battle as Mr Major did and then disappears into the shrubbery at the first sound of gunfire, then he does not deserve to be leader. I think he will be gone before long, maybe even after the European elections."

A farmer, educated at Wellington, Sandhurst and Cambridge, he was elected to Parliament in 1979. Dennis Skinner puts him in the "the goose-stepping tendency", and he is most at home giving rallying speeches calling for the return of hanging.

He is anti-immigration, scroungers, Zionists, feminist "harridans", smoking and, most recently, Tory Leaders. He has also suggested in the House that the Prince of Wales is not fit to rule.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign Office. Debate on Opposition motion on private pensions.
Lords (2.30): Debate on local government commission.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Ivanchuk Leads

AFTER six rounds of the rapid play/blindfold tournament in Monaco, the Ukranian Grandmaster Vassily Ivanchuk is in fine form and leads with five points. Here he annihilates Judith Polgar with a cascade of sacrifices.

White: Vassily Ivanchuk
Black: Judith Polgar
Monaco, 1994

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	e6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	a6
5	Bd3	Nf6
6	0-0	Qc7
7	Nc3	Bc5
8	Be3	b5
9	Ndxb5	axb5
10	Nxb5	Qe5
11	Bxc5	Qxc5
12	b4	Qb6
13	e5	Nd5
14	Nd6+	Ke7
15	Qh5	g6
16	Bxg6	Nc8
17	Be4	Kd8
18	b5	Nce7
19	c4	Nf4
20	Qf3	Nxg2
21	Bxa8	Nh4
22	Qf6	Rg8+
23	Kh1	Nhf5
24	Nxf5	Bb7+
25	f3	Bxa8
26	Nxe7	Black resigns

Caro Slayer

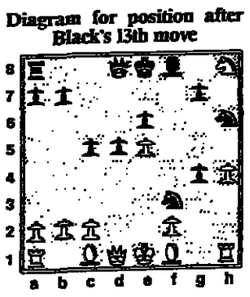
Following on Dr. John Nunn's win given yesterday against Anatoly Karpov's favourite Caro-Kann Defence, today's game sees Dr. Nunn slaughtering the American Grandmaster Yasser Seirawan with an elegant queen sacrifice in the same opening.

White: John Nunn
Black: Yasser Seirawan
Monaco, 1994

Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	e5	Bf5
4	Nc3	e6
5	g4	Bg6
6	Nge2	c5
7	h4	h5
8	Nf4	Nc6
9	Nxg6	fxg6
10	Ne2	hxg4
11	Nf4	Nh6
12	Nxg6	Nxd4
13	Nxh8	Nf3+

Diagram for position after Black's 13th move



14	Qxf3	gxf3
15	Bb5+	Qd7
16	Bxd7+	Kxd7
17	Bxh6	gxh6
18	Ng6	h5
19	Rh3	Bh6
20	Rxf3	Rg8
21	Rf7+	Black resigns

The key to Nunn's play is that if Black tries to save his queen with 15 ... Ke7 then 16 Bg5 is an attractive cross diagonal checkmate.

Winning Move, page 48

DEBENHAMS

WOMENSWEAR

HALF PRICE selected Alexon, Eastex, Berkertex and Ego

HALF PRICE selected bridal gowns

ONE THIRD OFF selected Casual Club

ONE THIRD OFF selected Trader

ONE THIRD OFF selected J Taylor

ONE THIRD OFF selected IQ

ONE THIRD OFF selected Debenhams dresses

ONE THIRD OFF selected Debenhams blouses

ONE THIRD OFF selected Debenhams knitwear

UP TO ONE THIRD OFF selected Anne Brooks Petite

MENSWEAR

UP TO ONE THIRD OFF all Casual Club jackets

UP TO ONE THIRD OFF all Casual Club sweatshirts

UP TO ONE THIRD OFF selected Casual Club knitwear

UP TO ONE THIRD OFF selected IQ

UP TO 25% OFF selected Debenhams sleepwear

15% OFF all Debenhams pack boxer shorts

UP TO £15 OFF selected Debenhams jackets

UP TO £7 OFF selected Casual Club trousers

UP TO £5 OFF all Trader and Debenhams brand jeans

£5 OFF Casual Club plain silk shirts

£5 OFF all Debenhams cool-wool trousers

ACCESSORIES

15% OFF all Gipsy hosiery

SAVE £20 when you spend £99 or more on 9ct gold jewellery and watches (excluding Fossil)

SAVE £2 when you buy 2 Presence individual boxed bras

HOMEWARE

HALF PRICE Viners Colourblaze 24-piece cutlery set. Was £59.99. Now £29.99

HALF PRICE offers on selected famous name beds from Benson Beds

HALF PRICE selected Edinburgh Crystal and John Jenkins giftware

25% OFF Meyer Tensl saucepans. 3-piece set. Was £89.99. Now £67.49

25% OFF Viners 44 & 60-piece silver plated canteens

25% OFF selected Accord bed linen

20% OFF all Debenhams plain dyed towels

20% OFF all Bodum coffee makers

20% OFF Debenhams Royal Doulton Strawberry Fayre and Summer Carnival china

20% OFF selected Perrings furniture

20% OFF all Dorma bed linen

15% OFF all Debenhams quilts & pillows

Mid-Season SALE starts today

All discounts on our original prices

WOMENSWEAR

UP TO ONE THIRD OFF selected Debenhams jackets

20% OFF all cotton mix plain, stripe and spot Coastline swimsuits and bikinis

20% OFF all Casual Club sandwash viscose separates

20% OFF selected Debenhams skirts

AT LEAST £20 OFF all Nuage microfibre raincoats

£7 OFF selected coloured Trader jeans

MENSWEAR

ONE THIRD OFF selected men's suits

£3 OFF selected beachwear

£3 OFF selected Debenhams shirts

UP TO £3 OFF selected Casual Club shorts

CHILDRENSWEAR

ONE THIRD OFF selected Debenhams girls co-ordinates

ONE THIRD OFF selected Trader (ages 0-12 yrs)

ONE THIRD OFF selected Bright Futures toddler sets (ages 9 mths-3 yrs)

ONE THIRD OFF selected Bright Futures nightwear (ages 9 mths-12 yrs)

£2 OFF selected Bright Futures boys and girls leisurewear (ages 3-12 yrs)

25% OFF selected Bright Futures boys and girls jackets (ages 3-12 yrs)

ACCESSORIES

HALF PRICE selected Debenhams costume jewellery

ONE THIRD OFF selected Debenhams handbags

ONE THIRD OFF selected Presence nightwear

UP TO ONE THIRD OFF selected Lilley & Skinner & Hush Puppies

AT LEAST 30% OFF all Meridian and Equator branded luggage

20% OFF selected Debenhams casual footwear

20% OFF selected Debenhams ladies hats

15% OFF all individual Sloggi underwear

HOMEWARE

10% OFF all Debenhams cotton range of sheets, quilt covers and pillow cases

£50 OFF Prestige 6-piece stainless steel saucepan set. Was £149. Now £99

£20 OFF when you buy 2 Casual Living Tuscany wicker chairs. Usual price £39.99 each

FREE dessert plate with purchase of 5-piece place setting and FREE sugar & creamer with purchase of 6 cups & saucers from the Denby Baroque and Marrakesh designs

FREE third box when you purchase 2 boxes of any Dartington stemware

OPEN Good Friday & Easter Monday

ONLY AT DEBENHAMS

MOST OFFERS AVAILABLE IN ALL DEBENHAMS STORES INCLUDING BROWNS OF CHESTER. STOCK SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

Brussels assurances lack policy guarantee

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

■ Opaque phrases brandished in the Commons are more smoke-screen than promises. In the end the Commission will probably bow to British concerns

ASSURANCES from the European Commission brandished yesterday in the House of Commons by John Major that it will not bypass Britain's opt-out or veto on social policy amount to a concoction of smoke and mirrors giving no guarantee that Brussels' policies will change.

David Hunt, the Employment Secretary, predicted in a radio interview yesterday morning that the Commission was about to deliver "written" promises of good behaviour. A few hours later the spokesman for Jacques Delors, the President of the Commission, made clear that Sir John Kerr, Britain's Ambassador to the European Union, had simply been given verbal "reminders" of Commission policy by M Delors and his Social Affairs Commissioner, Padraig Flynn. The request for the statement had first been put to M Delors by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, when they spoke last Sunday at an EU meeting in Greece.

The reminders cover only the nine months of this year while the present European Commission remains in office. The first item merely says that EU directives based on a treaty clause on health and safety will "directly concern" health and safety. Although this caused quarrels in the past, the British Government has no immediate fears on this score. The only two health and safety directives in the pipeline for this year have been drafted at British request and deal with the safety of industrial equipment and the protection of workers from "risks relating to explosive atmospheres".



The second reminder is even more vague: "The social protocol will apply according to the territorial principle." In plain English, this should mean that social law made under the Maastricht treaty by 11 states and excluding Britain should not seep across the Channel. In practice, the British Government has been furiously arguing for the past eight weeks that a directive requiring multinationals to set up pan-European works councils should entangle as few British firms as possible.

If spasmodic talks on the question between employers and trade unions break down, the European Commission will try another text on the governments. Britain now hopes as a result of yesterday's assurances that the Commission will drop an earlier insistence that UK workers in pan-European firms be counted when deciding whether or not a firm falls under the directive's terms. If UK workers are counted, about 300 British firms will be affected somewhere in Europe. If they are not counted, only about 100 will be touched.

But yesterday's opaque phrase is not a promise; the Commission has not yet made up its mind. "The Commission has not yet decided how to deal with that issue," one of the officials involved said yesterday. "We've taken note of British objections." But in practice the Commission will probably bow to British concerns. "If there's another burst of paranoia about this in Britain — and they seem to happen quite frequently — then we might decide that the game's not worth the candle," another official said. The last reminder is the same half-promise. The Commission says that it will carefully re-examine Britain's arguments in a dispute over which EU funds go to training or to the unemployed. The final outcome stays undefined.

More generally, yesterday's agreement closing the majority voting dispute launches the EU into uncharted legal waters. Even before the voting quarrel adjusted procedures yet further, EU officials were increasingly concerned about the incomprehensible complexity of the decision-making system, which layer upon layer of compromise between governments has built. Experts quibble over whether the Union now has 19 or 20 different ways of making European law.

As the text of the voting compromise emerged last night, it became clear that the "reasonable" delay promised to states falling just short of a blocking minority of 27 votes could be undermined by the European Parliament. The Parliament, nearly half of whose members are expected to change at elections in June, has not yet exercised many of the intricate powers with which it was endowed by the Maastricht treaty. The treaty gives the parliament powers in areas such as consumer protection, health and freedom of movement to amend directives which would then be subject to majority votes without any delays. As governments sent their reluctant agreements to the compromise to Brussels last night, several states nursed bruised and resentful feelings. Relations between Britain and The Netherlands, traditionally warm since the Dutch championed British entry to the EC, are at a low ebb. There were even harsh words between Britain and Denmark, also close in the past but on opposite sides of the recent fight.

The French and German governments feel disgruntled, but relieved that a deep crisis had been avoided. "What this fracas revealed to us is that there is now a permanent anti-European majority in Britain," said one normally sympathetic and non-federalist diplomat at the weekend.

☐ **Brussels:** French strong-arm diplomacy in Europe will bear fruit this week when the European Parliament buckles under enormous pressure from Paris and formally agrees to build a new chamber worth £300 million in Strasbourg (James Landale writes).

Major threat, page 1
Peter Brookes, page 1
Matthew Parris, page 2
Parliament, pages 10, 11
Simon Jenkins, page 18
Woodrow Wyatt, page 18
Leading article, page 19





Sir John Kerr, left, the British Ambassador to the EU, and Padraig Flynn, the Social Affairs Commissioner

Whitehall claims a victory over employment law

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S concessions from the European Commission on social policy are likely to be of significance over negotiating new European employment laws — but politically are a very inadequate fig-leaf to cover the Government's embarrassment at having to accept new voting plans.

Senior ministers lined up yesterday to emphasise the importance of the concessions obtained from the EC during the past few days with the EC President, Jacques Delors, which, according to the Prime Minister, "protect our most vulnerable flank on social affairs".

But the scale of concessions — if concessions they are — will not only do little to placate Conservative backbenchers angry at what they see as an embarrassing Government climbdown but will have little lasting effect on the intention of the Commission and other EU member states to bring forward legislation aimed at setting minimum employment standards across Europe.

In Brussels, Commission officials were in anycase yesterday expressing puzzlement at the claims by British ministers of concessions, insisting that they had done little more than to restate current policy, though David Hunt, the Employment Secretary, indicated that concessions received from Brussels by yesterday morning cleared the way for the Cabinet to accept the "compromise" on the blocking voting minority. Ministers claim, and Brussels confirms, that two moves have been made:

☐ **Health and safety laws**

Britain has for years been angry that the Commission has been bringing forward a range of what Britain says is legislation about changing employment conditions under the guise of changes to health and safety law. Employment law changes need complete agreement from all EU countries, so can be blocked by veto. Health and safety law brought forward under Article 118a of the Treaty of Rome, though, needs only approval under qualified majority voting, so Britain alone cannot block it. An example is the European directive on working time, which sets limits on the maximum amount of time employees can work.

While this is a significant concession in employment law because the Commission has never before actually said it, such a self-imposed restriction by Brussels has been widely taken for granted in European employment law circles for some time.

☐ **Social protocol**

The EC also said that any proposals brought forward under the social protocol of the Maastricht Treaty, from which the UK has opted out,



Hunt indicated that Britain would accept

would not take into account bodies or individuals located in Britain.

Stripped of Euro-speak, what this may mean is that the passage in the draft directive on involving and consulting employeesmay — but only may — be reconsidered.

Overall, European labour specialists considered last night that the two "concessions" do not amount to much.

Nazi helper tells of killings decision

FROM REUTER IN VERSAILLES

PAUL Touvier, the French collaborator with the Nazis in the second world war, suddenly regained his memory yesterday and gave a detailed account of the day 50 years ago when seven Jewish prisoners were chosen for execution.

In the first ten days of his trial for crimes against humanity, Touvier, who is 79 on Sunday, has claimed memory lapses when questioned about his activities as intelligence chief of Lyons' militia during the war. But as the presiding judge, Henri Boulard, was about to begin questioning him yesterday, he interrupted him and said: "Before beginning, I would like to give an account of the Rilleux tragedy again."

Touvier is accused of ordering the executions in Rilleux-la-Pape in reprisal for the murder by Resistance fighters of Philippe Henriot, propaganda chief of the collaborationist Vichy government. Touvier faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

He told the court he had just returned to Lyons from Vichy on June 28, 1944, when his militia chief, Victor de Bourmont, told him of Henriot's death.

"He was very upset. He told me that [Lyons Gestapo chief Werner] Knab had decided that a spectacular execution of 100 Jews was to be carried out," Touvier said. He said that De Bourmont was able to convince the Germans that Henriot's death was a French affair and promised them that 30 Jews would be shot.

"De Bourmont was panic-stricken and I was panic-stricken too ... We tried to reduce the number of victims. From 30 ... I said we would do seven at a time. And I was right. Knab's attention was taken up by other things and he forgot about it," Touvier said. He said his right-hand man, Albert Reynaud, chose the seven prisoners.

Just before dawn the next morning, the seven were lined up against the wall of the cemetery in Rilleux and shot one by one, first in the back, then in the head.

Touvier, who spent 45 years fleeing justice, was arrested in 1989. The trial is expected to end on about April 20.

Skinhead trial

Bonn: Seven neo-Nazi skinheads went on trial for murder yesterday in a sign that Germany is cracking down on radical rightwingers (Roger Boyes writes).

The trial in the east German town of Bautzen, near Dresden, coincided with a nationwide police search for a far-right former Nazi general who failed to turn up to begin a jail sentence.

Dixons
PRICE CRASH ON TOP BRAND PCs

FREE 12 MONTHS ON-SITE SERVICE
Service is available in your office or home for 12 months at no extra charge. This is included with most PCs, word processors and fax machines.

NO HIDDEN EXTRAS
Prices are shown both including and excluding VAT. The price shown is the price you pay.

EXCLUSIVE AFTER-SALES HOTLINE SUPPORT
For advice on your new hardware or software, just dial our special
DIXONS PC PLUS HOTLINE – 0891 516516*

SAVE £200 ON ADVENT PERSONAL COMPUTER



450D 486SX PC
- 50 MHz DLC2 processor
- 170Mb hard drive and 4Mb RAM provides enough memory to cope with latest software plus plenty of storage space
- Local Bus technology provides dramatic graphical acceleration
- 28 SVGA 14" colour monitor for high performance graphics
- Includes PC DOS 6.1, MS Windows 3.1 software
- 1024K V-RAM.

Was £1295 inc.VAT, £1102.12 ex.VAT
Dixons Deal £1095 inc. VAT
£931.91 ex.VAT

END-OF-LINE PC SAVINGS

	Was	SAVE	Dixons Deal
PACKARD BELL LEGEND ELITE 433E 486DX 25 MHz PC 85Mb hard drive, 2Mb RAM, Windows 3.1, Navigator.	£899.99 inc. VAT £799 ex. VAT	£130	£769 inc. VAT £654.46 ex. VAT
IBM PS/1 540 PC 85Mb hard drive, 2Mb RAM, MS-DOS 6.0, Windows 3.1, MS Works.	£899 inc. VAT £869 ex. VAT	£70	£829 inc. VAT £705.53 ex. VAT
IBM PS/1 451 PC 120Mb hard drive, 4Mb RAM, MS-DOS 6.0, Windows 3.1.	£999 inc. VAT £899 ex. VAT	£150	£849 inc. VAT £722.55 ex. VAT
IBM PS/1 482 PC 85Mb hard drive, 2Mb RAM, MS-DOS 6.0, Windows 3.1	£999 inc. VAT £850.05 ex. VAT	£150	£849 inc. VAT £722.55 ex. VAT
PACKARD BELL LEGEND ELITE 4636 486DX PC 120Mb hard drive, 4Mb RAM, MS-DOS 5.0, Windows 3.1, Navigator	£999 inc. VAT £899 ex. VAT	£130	£869 inc. VAT £739.57 ex. VAT
COMPAQ PROLINEA 4/25S SLS PC 120Mb hard drive, 4Mb RAM, Local bus MS-DOS 5.0, Windows 3.1	£1049.99 inc. VAT £949 ex. VAT	£120	£929 inc. VAT £790.65 ex. VAT
OLIVETTI PCS40 PC 120Mb hard drive, 4Mb RAM, MS-DOS 6.0, Windows 3.1.	£1049.99 inc. VAT £999 ex. VAT	£100	£949 inc. VAT £807.65 ex. VAT
HEWLETT-PACKARD VECTRA 25VL PC 120Mb hard drive, 4Mb RAM, Local Bus, Windows 3.1, MS-DOS 5.0	£1249 inc. VAT £1099 ex. VAT	£200	£1049 inc. VAT £892.76 ex. VAT
COMPAQ PROLINEA 4/25S PC 120Mb hard drive, 4Mb RAM, MS-DOS 5.0, Windows 3.1.	£1349 inc. VAT £1199 ex. VAT	£200	£1149 inc. VAT £977.87 ex. VAT

IBM PS/1 174 PC
33 MHz Intel 486DX processor. 170Mb hard disk drive and 4Mb RAM for huge storage capability. Software includes MS-DOS 5.0, Windows 3.1. Was £1349.99 inc. VAT, £1199 inc. VAT,
Dixons Deal £1149 inc. VAT
£977.87 ex. VAT
SAVE £200

	Was	SAVE	Dixons Deal
PACKARD BELL LEGEND ELITE 6036 PC 170Mb hard drive, 4Mb RAM, MS-DOS 5.0, Windows 3.1.	£1299 inc. VAT £1199 ex. VAT	£150	£1149 inc. VAT £977.87 ex. VAT
IBM PS/1 473 PC 120Mb hard drive, 4Mb RAM, PC-DOS 5.0, Windows 3.1	£1549.99 inc. VAT £1299 ex. VAT	£300	£1249 inc. VAT £1062.97 ex. VAT
COMPAQ PROLINEA 4/33 PC 120Mb hard drive, 4Mb RAM, Word, Excel and Publisher.	£1699 inc. VAT £1499 ex. VAT	£300	£1399 inc. VAT £1190.63 ex. VAT

SAVE ON HIGH PERFORMANCE PCs



HIGHSCREEN COLANI
DX266 DESKTOP PC
66 MHz Intel 486DX2 processor. 4Mb RAM and 250Mb hard drive. 512K Video RAM card and 5 expansion slots. MS-DOS 6.0, Windows 3.1.-28 SVGA 14" colour monitor.
Was £1599.99 inc. VAT, £1360.85 ex. VAT
Dixons Deal £1299 inc. VAT | £1105.53 ex. VAT



HIGHSCREEN COLANI
DX266 TOWER PC
66 MHz Intel 486DX2 processor. 8Mb RAM and 250Mb hard drive. 512K Video RAM card and 5 expansion slots. MS-DOS 6.0, Windows 3.1.-28 SVGA 14" colour monitor.
Was £1799.99 inc. VAT, £1531.90 ex. VAT
Dixons Deal £1499 inc. VAT | £1275.74 ex. VAT

SAVE £250 ON OLIVETTI PC



OLIVETTI PCS40 DX33 PC
- 120Mb hard drive and 4Mb RAM – plenty of storage space for all your programmes and data
- 28 SVGA 14" colour monitor for high performance graphics
- Software includes MS-DOS 6.0 and Windows 3.1. Was £1449.99 inc.VAT, £1234.03 ex.VAT, £1299 inc.VAT, £1105.53 ex.VAT.

Dixons Deal £1199 inc. VAT | £1020.43 ex. VAT

the BUSINESS CENTRE

Dixons Business Update '94

AROUND 200 BUSINESS CENTRES NATIONWIDE. TEL: 081-200 0200 FOR YOUR NEAREST BRANCH
*Expertly trained staff will be on hand to help you Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm and Saturday 9am to 5.30pm. Calls charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at all other times.

LOWEST PRICES GUARANTEED
We will refund the difference on the spot, if you can find the same product, with the same offer, cheaper locally, just come back to us within 7 days of purchase, with the details. The product must be new, complete and available for immediate delivery. The guarantee excludes mail order prices/offers.

ALL STORES OPEN GOOD FRIDAY
MANY STORES OPEN EASTER MONDAY
Check with your local store for opening times.

Serbs pledge to return UN aid taken by troops

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE AND JOEL BRAND IN SPLIT

■ Joint US-Russian efforts to expand the Sarajevo ceasefire to Croatia made a good start while Bosnian Serbs moved to defuse a fresh row with the UN in Banja Luka

BOSNIAN Serb officials were moving yesterday to avert a new crisis with the United Nations after the UN High Commissioner for Refugees suspended all aid convoys to and through Banja Luka because Bosnian Serb police and soldiers seized goods from the city's UNHCR warehouse on Saturday.

But yesterday Dragan Kekic, the head of The Bosnian Serb Co-ordinating Board for Humanitarian Affairs told the UNHCR that the goods would be returned by today. Anthony Smith, a UNHCR official in Banja Luka, said that Mr Kekic had promised that if necessary the offenders would be charged with criminal offences.

The crisis arose after UNHCR had inadvertently transported packages for a Muslim group in Germany that contained non-humanitarian aid, such as coffee, cigarettes and stockings. Last week Mr Smith led an ill-fated convoy to Maglaj, which was hijacked by a rogue Bosnian Serb commander. Embarrassed Serb officials had the trucks promptly returned and apologised profusely.

In a more encouraging sign, it seemed that the American and Russian attempt to extend the "Sarajevo model" negotiation that cut short the two-year siege of the city to the conflict in neighboring Croatia seemed off to a strong start yesterday as government officials and rebel Serbs were said to be close to signing a ceasefire.

The former Cold War rivals seem to have brought peace to Sarajevo, a feat many observers and diplomats thought impossible only eight weeks ago. Riding on the momentum and trying to maintain the international pressure vital in the Sarajevo agreement, Charles Redman, the American envoy, and Vitali Churkin, the Russian are hoping a truce will herald mutually beneficial utility and trade accords and eventually a political settlement.

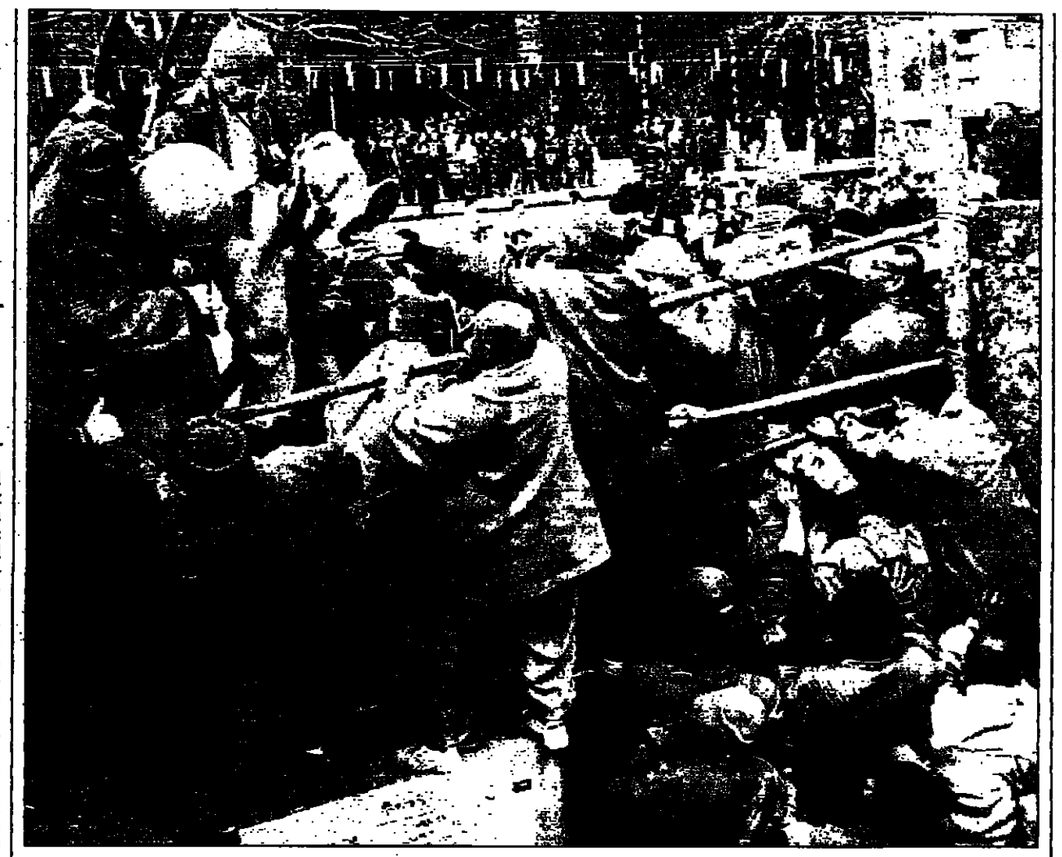


However, in some parts of Bosnia Serb forces subjected the Muslim enclave of Gorazde to "extremely heavy shelling" according to UNHCR spokesman Ron Redmond. He said that this was the first time in several weeks that the enclave had been bombarded and that six children had been injured. In the north of the republic fighting was reported around Teslic where Croat and Muslim forces claim to have advanced over the weekend.

Meanwhile in Zagreb Croatian Government officials were meeting a delegation from the self-declared Republic of Serbian Krajina in the Russian Embassy and there were high hopes that a permanent ceasefire could be signed. Krajina covers almost one third of Croatian territory.

The Banja Luka affair and the Gorazde shelling appear to be aberrations when the Serb strategy is now to avoid negative publicity but also to harden their diplomatic stance before a new round of negotiations begins. According to a senior UN official: "the Serbs are toughening up again because they are hoping that it might bring them advantages."

A senior official of President Milosevic's Serbian Socialist Party said the current strategy was to play for time. The West had constantly been changing its approach in former Yugoslavia; "So, why shouldn't we expect the present position, which is unfavourable to us, to be changed? Why not suffer for a few months more?"



Establishment and reformist Buddhist monks clashing outside the Chogye Temple in central Seoul yesterday in part of a battle for control of the religious hierarchy in South Korea. Dozens of monks were injured as they fought into the night with stones and iron bars after riot police stormed the temple complex at dusk. One monk plunged headlong from the top of a six-storey building on to the pavement below as the riot police tore down makeshift barricades and entered the complex. Three reformists threatened to immolate themselves if the police tried to remove them from the three storeys of the temple residence building they occupied earlier. The clashes broke out over who should take administrative control of the nation's Buddhist temples with their millions of followers. The protesters, mostly young and from provincial temples, gathered on Sunday at the temple, criticising Suh Eui Hyun, head of the Buddhist administration since 1986, for corruption and associating with politicians. A vote on the leadership is scheduled for today. *(AFP)*

Property prices top Patten's agenda

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

CHRIS Patten, the Governor of Hong Kong, left the colony last night for London, via a lecture date in Dublin, and again showed that he is emphasising his role as mayor for six million residents.

He said yesterday: "When I return, clearly the number one domestic issue on my agenda will be property prices" — which are rocketing in Honk Kong. Not only are house and flat rents and sales soaring out of reach of even the well-off, but foreign businesses, on whose presence the economy largely depends, are considering relocating.

Mr Patten put it bluntly. Property prices are "a threat to the aspiratrions of ordinary families . . . and a threat to our competitiveness as an economy as well". Without specifying, he suggested that solving this problem would "demand exceptional measures". This may include persuading Peking to allow more land to be released onto the housing market, a contennious issue because the money in such 1997-straddling arrangements must be shared with China.

Mr Patten also favours new legislation concerning women in those parts of Hong Kong, the New Territories, where they are governed by laws reaching back to the last Chinese dynasty, which prohibit them from inheriting property. Such laws have long since disappeared in China and in most of Hong Kong. Peking yesterday opposed these new laws, which it claims will cause social instability.

Mr Patten made it clear that the new laws would not also be an attack on village temples and cemeteries, as had been suggested by local adversaries of the new inheritance legislation. There has been some public violence directed at reformers on these matters, and the Governor hoped there would be an end to "aggravated feelings and tensions."

Only three days ago he declared there could be no "no-go areas in Hong Kong", and while he indicated that men could draw wills leaving property to males only, his new laws would guarantee "freedom of choice".

US reassures Japan on tourists' safety after students killed

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

THE United States, anxious to preserve one of the few trade advantages it enjoys with Japan — tourism — has moved to address Japanese concerns about travel to America, amid heavy media coverage of the shooting dead of two Japanese college students last weekend.

President Clinton yesterday expressed condolences to the families of Takuma Ito and Go Matsuura, both 19, who died from gunshot wounds after a "carjacking" in a Los Angeles shopping centre car park last Friday.

Mr Clinton telephoned Morihiro Hosokawa, Japan's Prime Minister, and emphasised that the two students were "victims of random violence", according to White House officials.

Michael McCurry, the State Department spokesman, said that while the shooting was a "deplorable and senseless act", travel in America remained safe. Mr McCurry said the American government was concerned that the extensive news coverage in Japan of the tragedy would create a distorted view.

After the shooting, the Japanese foreign ministry warned travellers to America to be cautious. With a peculiar — or perhaps deliberate — sense of timing, the Japanese transport ministry yesterday announced a plan to double the number of Japanese tourists to the United States by 2000 as part of efforts to reduce Japan's large bilateral current account surplus. About 3.4 million Japanese visit America each year and nearly 50,000 Japanese students are studying in the United States.

Export quotas, page 26



Matsuura: shot dead in a shopping centre

American majority 'believes Clinton over Whitewater'

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton has bounced back from his troubles over Whitewater — for the time being — as his approval ratings soared on the strength of last week's prime-time news conference.

Two opinion polls showed a strong change in sentiment by the American public, which appears to be suffering Whitewater fatigue. In an ABC News-*Washington Post* poll, the President's approval rating jumped by 10 per centage points to 57 per cent since his live broadcast last Thursday, which had even some of his Republican critics marvelling at the charm with which he handled some of the questions.

Far more important than the volatile approval ratings — a *USA Today*/CNN/Gallup poll suggests a rating of 52 per cent — is the public's reactions to the Whitewater allegations themselves.

Most Americans believe the President's version of the story is either true or mostly true, according to the *USA Today* poll. The ABC poll suggests that 56 per cent of the population believes Whitewater is not important, while 69 per cent feel it is distracting the Administration from important issues, such as health care.

The Clintons are spending the week near San Diego, California, but the saga rumbles on. There were allegations about Mrs Clinton's $100,000 profit on cattle futures in the late 1970s. The *Wall Street Journal* reported that Mrs Clinton's broker, Robert Bone, was disciplined by regulators for allocating trades to investors, after he had determined whether trades had won or lost money.

The action by regulators came after complaints from investors who alleged that Mr Bone allocated several losing trades to their account. There is no evidence that Mr Bone misallocated trades in connection with any of Mrs Clinton's futures deals.

In 1979, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange suspended Mr Bone as a commodity broker for three years because of "serious and repeated violations of record-keeping functions, order-entry procedures, margin requirements and hedge procedures".

Violence delays PLO talks

Cairo: Continued violence in the occupied territories delayed the start of talks between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation designed to overcome obstacles caused by the Hebron mosque massacre last month (Christopher Walker writes). The PLO, despite being criticised for meeting the Israelis, is anxious for an accord to permit movement on the territories.

Rival steps in

Nairobi: The Kenya Wildlife Service looked set for more controversy after the appointment of David "Jonah" Western, 50, a rival of Richard Leakey, who recently quit.

Tanker barred

Dubai: Gulf states are not allowing the Stolidi, a fire-stricken 267,038-tonne tanker with 1.5 million barrels of crude oil, to dock because of pollution fears; 18 dead Filipino crew are on board. *(Reuter)*

Morillon post

Paris: General Philippe Morillon, former commander of UN forces in Bosnia, is expected to be appointed head of the French Rapid Intervention Force. *(Reuter)*

Tiger arrests

Hong Kong: Police in Xiamen, southern China, have arrested a couple and five other people suspected of trafficking tigers' pelts and fossilised dinosaur eggs. *(AP)*

Rights protest

Bucharest: The Romanian opposition Liberal 93 Party has filed human rights complaints to the Council of Europe, saying that the government had not kept democratic promises. *(Reuter)*

Short hand

Peking: A factory worker won a prize for penning the tiniest Chinese characters after he wrote four speeches by Winston Churchill on a scrap of paper the size of a postage stamp. *(Reuter)*

ABBEY NATIONAL INTEREST RATES

Change of Interest Rates

INVESTMENTS

With effect from 31st March 1994 the rates of interest listed below will apply to savings and investment accounts currently available.

		New Annual Interest Rates		New Monthly Interest Rates	
		Gross % Rate Δ	Net % Rate ΔΔ	Gross % Rate Δ	Net % Rate ΔΔ
ABBEY NATIONAL HIGH YIELD BOND	£200,000 plus	7.50	5.63	7.25	5.44
	£100,000 up to £199,999	7.30	5.48	7.07	5.30
	£50,000 up to £99,999	7.10	5.33	6.88	5.16
	£25,000 up to £49,999	6.85	5.14	6.64	4.98
	£10,000 up to £24,999	6.20	4.65	6.03	4.52
ABBEY NATIONAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNT	£25,000 plus	6.10	4.58	5.94	4.46
	£10,000 up to £24,999	5.40	4.05	5.27	3.95
	£500 up to £9,999	4.35	3.26	4.27	3.20
REGULAR SAVER†	£25,000 plus	6.80	5.10	–	–
	£10,000 up to £24,999	6.20	4.65	–	–
	£5,000 up to £9,999	5.80	4.35	–	–
	£2,500 up to £4,999	5.20	3.90	–	–
	£500 up to £2,499	5.00	3.75	–	–
	£20 up to £499	3.50	2.63	–	–
INSTANT SAVER	£25,000 plus	5.10	3.83	–	–
	£10,000 up to £24,999	4.50	3.38	–	–
	£5,000 up to £9,999	4.15	3.11	–	–
	£2,500 up to £4,999	3.85	2.89	–	–
	£500 up to £2,499	3.60	2.70	–	–
	£250 up to £499	1.00	0.75	–	–
	£1 up to £249	0.20	0.15	–	–
ACTION SAVER	£25,000 plus	5.10	3.83	–	–
	£10,000 up to £24,999	4.50	3.38	–	–
	£5,000 up to £9,999	4.15	3.11	–	–
	£2,500 up to £4,999	3.85	2.89	–	–
	£500 up to £2,499	3.60	2.70	–	–
	£250 up to £499	3.00	2.25	–	–
	£100 up to £249	2.50	1.88	–	–
	£1 up to £99	2.00	1.50	–	–
SAYE TRANSFER ACCOUNT*	£59 up to £1,180	4.35	3.26	–	–
CURRENT ACCOUNT		–	–	0.20	0.15
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNT	£25,000 plus	3.70	2.78	3.64	2.73
	£10,000 up to £24,999	2.75	2.06	2.72	2.04
	£2,500 up to £9,999	1.80	1.35	1.79	1.34
	£1,000 up to £2,499	1.00	0.75	1.00	0.75

OTHER ACCOUNTS

Interest rates on savings and investment accounts no longer available and not listed above are obtainable from your local branch.

Δ Interest will be paid gross to eligible non-tax payers who register with us as required by the Inland Revenue. ΔΔ Net of basic rate income tax (currently 25%). You may be able to reclaim this tax from the Inland Revenue. *Only available when you open an Abbey National SAYE Account. †Rates quoted include 3.06% gross p.a. bonus or 2.25% net p.a. bonus - see product leaflet for full terms and conditions.

ABBEY NATIONAL

The habit of a lifetime

Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL.

20

THE TIMES CONUNDRUM COMPETITION

Conundrum

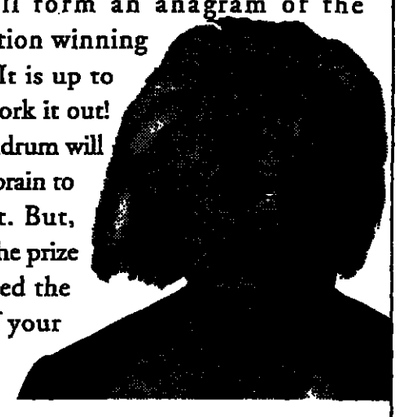
the ultimate brainteaser

Prepare to be baffled and bewildered! This is Day Three of Conundrum, the most intriguing competition ever devised.

Here is how to play: Study the Conundrum clue in the panel below. Then try to unravel the meaning of it.

The answer, a single letter or number, will be hidden somewhere in *The Times* today. When you have found it, note it and keep it with yesterday's answer on your Conundrum coupon. There are nine more clues to solve, and we are also reprinting yesterday's clue in case you missed it. At the end, they will form an anagram of the competition winning phrase. It is up to you to work it out!

Conundrum will tax your brain to the limit. But, equally, the prize will exceed the limits of your dreams!



WIN *the ultimate holiday*

The home of memorable occasions

Necker Island

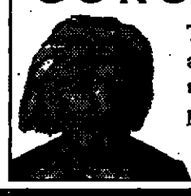


Necker Island is the fabulous holiday home in the British Virgin Islands, built by Richard Branson. Secluded and exclusive, it combines a paradise location with an unprecedented level of sheer, pampered indulgence. The Conundrum winner and five friends will spend a week there, including Virgin Atlantic Upper Class return flights, entirely free of charge.



Necker Island is a place you fall in love with instantly - so it's also perfect for a truly unforgettable wedding. Necker Island can arrange the entire wedding for you, including the registrar, flowers, photographer, beautician, hairdresser, band and the sumptuous beachfront wedding feast. None of it will be left to chance, and all of it will be simply first class. And with the perfect climate, a beautiful day is virtually guaranteed! To find out more about this service - or if you would like more details about Necker Island - call 071-727 8000.

TODAY'S CONUNDRUM



The best PAs seeking appointments look for this feminine French preposition.

1st letter.

ARE YOU MISSING A CLUE? Yesterday's Conundrum, the clues and Day 3's letter

Little men, big ideas, keep Mafeking on the map

FROM SAM KILEY IN MAFEKING

MAFEKING is a small town built around railway sidings on dull, flat dry land. It has no pretensions to grandeur: yet it has at three times been a crisis point in South Africa's history at the hands of small men with big ideas.

Most recently Mafeking has been the place where history is seen through a looking glass, but with distortions throwing back images of both terror and hope for the new South Africa.

Ninety-nine years ago, a group of 500 men under the command of a doctor in ill health, Leander Starr Jameson, used Mafeking, then the administrative centre of British Bechuanaland, to invade the Transvaal. With the backing of Cecil Rhodes and other "Randlords", in the name of defending the mainly British *uitlanders* (foreigners) against Paul Kruger's presidency of the Boer republic of the Transvaal, they hoped to force the British Government's hand into seizing the Witwatersrand goldfields for the Crown and the City of London.

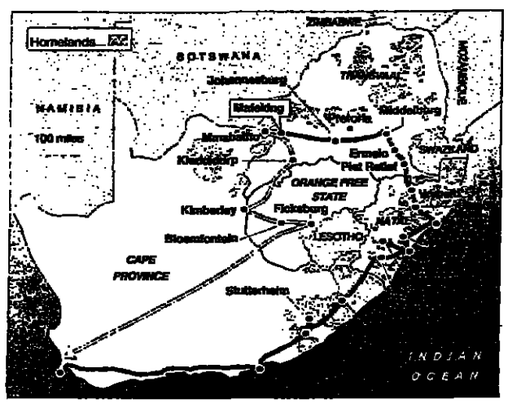
The raid by 500 horsemen was a fiasco. The gang was arrested, Jameson sentenced to 15 months in prison, and Rhodes forced to resign as Prime Minister of the Cape Province. Britain's imperialists had to wait another four years to start a proper war with the Boer republics, and again Mafeking came to prominence during the 217-day siege, in which Colonel Robert Baden-Powell turned dubious British military tactics into a domestic propaganda victory as the Boer War was at its most unpopular at home.

Earlier this month, South African right-wing extremists had a second Jameson raid, this time from the Transvaal into Mafeking and Mmabatho — its twin which formed the administrative capital of the now defunct homeland of Bophuthatswana. That raid ended in a bloody failure in which at least 40 blacks were killed along with five members of the right wing — three were killed in cold blood by a black policeman.

But it also marked a turning point for the right wing, and for the government. The right split amid bitter recriminations about the raid. The government of President de Klerk showed, in deploying the South African Defence Force, that it would not hesitate to use force against white extremists.

The incident finally ended the myth, until then believed by blacks and whites, that armed white men were somehow invincible. After the three members of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) were killed, black police and soldiers were jubilant. "They are not bullet-proof. We have killed three and we will kill many more. They have never met a black man who shoots back. Now they have and they are running," said a police sergeant, grinning broadly as he watched the Bophuthatswana army run the rightwingers out of town at gunpoint. The debacle also split the white leadership. Constand Viljoen, the former general and leader of the *volksfront*, abandoned the movement to set up the Freedom Front to campaign in the elections next month. Eugene Terre'Blanche, the AWB leader, called him a "Judas goat" after his defection. The muddle may have disastrous effects. Sources in the AWB and other neo-Nazi groups said they were planning to avenge the deaths of their comrades.

Under the former schoolteacher turned President, Lucas Mangope, "Bop" was seen by the architects of apartheid as their most impressive edifice. The Sun City and Lost City hotel complexes brought in thousands of tourists. In the days of the Immorality Act, which forbade sex between whites and other races, whites flocked to Sun City's unofficial "amenities".





SIMON WALKER

ANC sympathisers celebrating the defeat of the white right's "invasion" of Mmbatho, capital of Bophuthatswana

60 injured in violent homeland protest

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN PHUTHADUHADA QWAQWA

SOUTH African Defence Force troops and homeland police officers patrolled the streets of Phuthadijhada, the Qwa-Qwa capital, in armoured vehicles yesterday with the city on a knife edge following clashes and looting after an African National Congress march 24 hours earlier.

More than 200 people were arrested and troops deployed in the tiny homeland, wedged between the Orange Free State and Natal, when a group of youths broke away from a march by thousands of civil servants to the homeland parliament and ran amok through a shopping centre. Up to 60 people were injured.

Members of the ANC-alligned National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union are refusing to return to work unless the homeland government is dissolved.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST DIY TRADE IN NOW ON

Only Do It All gives instant discount when you trade in your old product for a new product in the following categories: Paint, Wallpaper, Power Tools, Lighting, Doors and Handles*, Lawnmowers, Garden Furniture and Barbecues.

Below are just a few examples of trade in discounts applicable in this offer (only one item may be traded in against each product purchased).

*When purchased together.

£10 OFF ANY MOWER WHEN YOU TRADE IN YOUR OLD MOWER

Black & Decker Hovermaster GX530C 30cm (12") Plus FREE voucher worth £20 off Do It All own brand Garden Tools £134.99 WITH TRADE IN £124.99

£1 OFF ANY PAINT* WHEN YOU TRADE IN YOUR OLD PAINT BRUSH

*(excludes woodcare)

Crown Creams Vinyl Matt/Silk Emulsion 2.5L £10.99 WITH TRADE IN £9.99

£10 OFF ANY GARDEN FURNITURE BOXED SET (OR SEPARATE GARDEN FURNITURE ITEMS TOTALLING OVER £70) WHEN YOU TRADE IN ANY PIECE OF YOUR OLD GARDEN FURNITURE

Chelwood Boxed Set White 10 Piece (4 Chairs, Round Table 80cm approx, 4 Seat Pads and Parasol) £89.99 WITH TRADE IN £79.99

£5 OFF ANY LIGHTING* WHEN YOU TRADE IN YOUR OLD LIGHT FITTING

*(excludes torches, bulbs and shades)

Coloroll Savannah Wallpaper 208952 Blue, 208914 Peach, 209003 Lemon, 208976 Beige £2.99 WITH TRADE IN £1.99

Tasley 500W Halogen Floodlight with PIR and bulb (Plus EXTRA FREE 500W bulb) £19.99 WITH TRADE IN £14.99

£5 OFF ANY POWER TOOL (INCLUDING GARDEN POWER TOOLS) WHEN YOU TRADE IN YOUR OLD POWER TOOL

Black & Decker Wallpaper Stripper BD1200 Plus FREE Do It All Roller Kit and 3 Brushes £31.85 WITH TRADE IN £26.95

£5 OFF ANY DOOR AND HANDLES (WHEN PURCHASED TOGETHER) WHEN YOU TRADE IN YOUR OLD DOOR HANDLE

Regency 6 Panel Deluxe Internal Door 78" x 30" £22.99

Brass Lever Lock Door Handles S400 £12.99 WITH TRADE IN £31.98

£5 OFF ANY BARBECUE* WHEN YOU TRADE IN YOUR OLD BARBECUE

*(excludes disposable barbecue, fuel and accessories)

Round Kettle Barbecue with Four Legs 4297 £69.99 WITH TRADE IN £64.99

£1 OFF ANY ROLL OF WALLPAPER WHEN YOU TRADE IN A PIECE OF YOUR OLD ROLL OF WALLPAPER

The Do It All Promise

If you're not completely satisfied... We'll always take it back.

Whatever the reason, return any product with proof of purchase and we'll change it or refund your money without a quibble and, of course, we guarantee our prices won't be beaten.

DO IT ALL Better products, unbeatable prices.

While stocks last. For your nearest store telephone: Freecall 0500 300321. Free delivery for purchases over £100. The Do It All Promise is in addition to your statutory rights.

Fresh gunfire in Johannesburg threatens summit

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN PRETORIA

TENSION in the centre of Johannesburg was high yesterday, and the worst fears of office workers with jobs in the city were realised when the occupants of a minibus opened fire on the headquarters of the African National Congress there.

Lunchtime shoppers scattered for cover at noon as the shots were fired. Warrant Officer Andy Pieke, for the Witwatersrand police, said no one had been found injured, but the windscreen of a car was broken by gunfire.

Overnight, members of the Inkatha Freedom Party, whose supporters were shot by African National Congress security guards during the day of killing surrounding a Zulu march through the city centre on Monday, had vowed that they would be avenged. Further attacks are still possible.

Calls for the banning of marches and demonstrations in urban areas were made yesterday by usually liberal newspapers. The Afrikaans newspaper, *Beeld*, led the way, saying: "In order to prevent further tragedies like that of yesterday and save the elections, all marches in densely populated urban areas should be banned until after the elections."

The Star, the English language afternoon paper in Johannesburg, put it more tentatively, saying that unless political leaders were prepared to honour certain basic responsibilities, "then they invite inevitable illiberal censure: the temporary prohibition of some or all high-risk demonstrations".

In the aftermath of Monday's massacre of marchers, Goodwill Zwelithini, the king of the Zulus, called off his proposed summit meeting with President de Klerk, Nelson Mandela, the ANC president, and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Inkatha leader. The summit was due to take place today and tomorrow, but yesterday the king said: "I must, I think, call for a moratorium on all negotiations about the future of the kingdom until people have been given the opportunity to bury their dead, and until such time as the fierce anger in their breasts has abated somewhat."

He asked for the meeting to be postponed until the week after Easter if violence reduced sufficiently and Zulu anger subsided. Mr de Klerk's office said that he had contacted Chief Buthelezi "to ensure the meeting will, indeed, take place this week" and was trying to reach King Goodwill. "He is convinced that such a meeting, held as early as possible, can make a substantial contribution to addressing the climate of violence and to preventing or reducing further deaths," the President's office said. An ANC official said that it would be unfortunate if the meeting were postponed given the gravity of the situation.



ELECTION COUNTDOWN

Poll suggests de Klerk win in Western Cape

FROM R. W. JOHNSON IN CAPE TOWN

AN OPINION poll released here yesterday by the non-partisan Institute for Multi-Party Democracy suggests that, barring miracles, President de Klerk's National Party will win the Western Cape region in next month's South African election. The poll gives the Nationalists 52 per cent and the African National Congress 35 per cent.

The news is discomfiting for the ANC, not just because it had hoped to make a clean sweep of all nine regions, but because it shows how thoroughly the movement has failed to carry its message to the Coloured community which makes up 55 per cent of the Western Cape population.

The Coloureds suffered such depravation and humiliation under apartheid that to have a two-thirds majority plumping for the Nationalists is a bitter rebuff. In Cape Town, less than a quarter of the Coloureds seem inclined to support Nelson Mandela, which means that the new parliament, with its inevitable ANC majority, will sit in the one big city in the country emphatically to reject the ANC. The symbolism goes beyond that: Cape Town is South Africa's mother city just as Boston is America's. This is where white implantation began — and perhaps where it will end.

Here in the Cape, the ANC is caught in a double bind. As the poll shows, the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) is carving into the leftward flank of the ANC in the black townships and squatter camps of the Cape Flats: in just three months the PAC's share of the black vote has doubled to 16 per cent. One reason for this is the persistent criticism within the Cape ANC that the party is spending too much effort chasing after a Coloured vote that it will never actually get: it is better by far, say the militants, to stick firm to radical principle. The PAC is thus emerging as the sole truly African party in the Cape.

The Coloureds' worries are similar to those of the whites in that they feel deeply insecure about being swamped by a tide of black, believe that the ANC is essentially an African party, and think that the Communist element within the ANC is too strong.





Achille Occhetto, the left-wing leader, conceding defeat in Rome; Silvio Berlusconi, head of Forza Italia, celebrating victory; and Mario Segni, the Pact for Italy chief, as his hopes sank

Berlusconi scorns idea of coalition collapse

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

■ Italy's badly-beaten left-wing politicians are banking on Silvio Berlusconi being unable to hold the fractious right together. His main problem may be Umberto Bossi

SILVIO Berlusconi, declared the winner yesterday in Italy's general election, immediately vowed to form a strong and authoritative government. He poured scorn on suggestions that his deeply divided alliance would not survive. "There will be no betrayal of the electorate that has indicated exactly what it wants: a strong and authoritative government," he said.

Opponents accused the former member of the anti-communist P-2 masonic lodge of being stuck in a Cold War time warp when he launched, a mere two months ago, his crusade to foil a left-wing victory. But the TV tycoon had the last laugh when voters shied from the anti-Nato rhetoric of Fausto Bertinotti, the leader of the Communist Refoundation party which threatened to halt privatisation and tax treasury bonds.

Both extremes fought a mudslinging campaign but the former communist Democratic Party of the Left (PDS) lost the sympathy of many voters when Luciano Violante, its head of the Parliamentary anti-Mafia Commission, resigned after he was caught out leaking *sub judice* suspicions about a Berlusconi aide to the press. Antonio Tajani, the former monarchist journalist who Signor Berlusconi hired to help him become king, said he believed the Violante affair had cost the left the election.The immediate challenge facing "Il Cavaliere" now

THE ROAD TO GOVERNMENT

is to prove that his pact with the neo-Fascist National Alliance and the Northern League is more than a mere electoral alliance. Umberto Bossi, the tough-talking League leader, already has threatened to withdraw support unless Roberto Maroni, his parliamentary whip, is made prime minister rather than Signor Berlusconi. Signor Bossi also wants the lion's share of the spoils in a cabinet for his devolutionist cronies on the ground that democracy would be threatened by giving too much power to "the reactionary right" led by his polished rival Gianfranco Fini.

The horsetrading may eventually produce a government but it is likely to be short-lived and viewed with suspicion by European neighbours leery of Roman salutes and latter-day fascists. Signor Berlusconi stopped short of obtaining an absolute majority in the Senate, the upper house, elected by voters of minimum age 25 compared to 18 for the Chamber of Deputies.

The new mainly, first-past-the-post system took Italy closer to the two-party system that Italians voted for in their referendum on electoral reform last year. The potentially unsatisfactory result in the senate, however, indicates that Italy's sweet revolution is not over. Further constitutional reform will be the main priority of the next government. Another election soon would test Signor Berlusconi's powers and his claim to be the first leader of the honest new Second Republic.

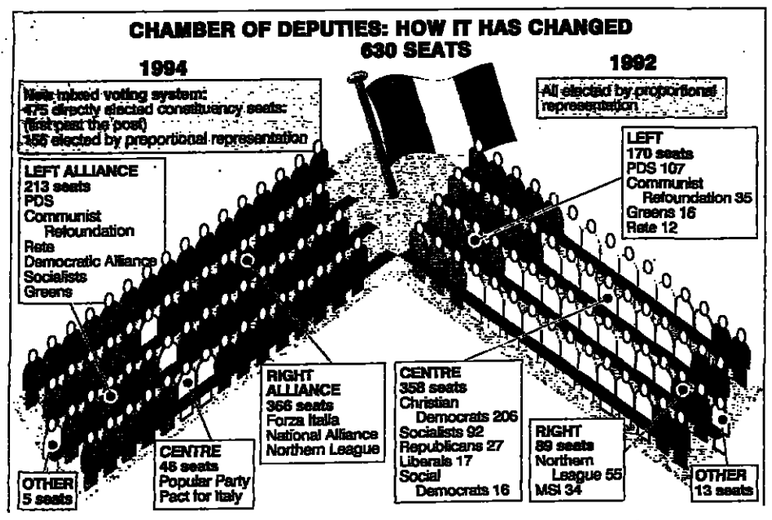
The Freedom Alliance was declared the official winner as Forza Italia supporters and their neo-Fascist allies inflicted ignominious defeat on the left-wing Progressive Alliance. The mainly first-past-the-post system used for the first time to replace the purely proportional representation rules produced a clear triumph for the media mogul, with the Freedom Alliance garnering a comfortable absolute majority of 366 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, the lower house, compared with 213 for the progressives grouped around the former communist Democratic Party of the Left.

The centrist Pact for Italy and the Italian Popular Party won only 46 seats together compared with 206 seats won by the old Christian Democrat party in the last general election in 1992. The Socialist Party, which won 100 seats in 1992, got only a handful of seats running on the Progressive ticket.

Massimo D'Alema , the PDS leader in the outgoing parliament, admitted that the Progressives had been surprised by the extent of their defeat. But he called on supporters to be ready to enter a broad-based "constitutional government" if the divisions within the right-wing camp prove insurmountable and another election is necessary in the autumn.

President Scalfaro is expected to begin formal consultations with party leaders after April 15 before naming a *Prime Minister-designate* — Signor Berlusconi — to try to form a government.

Coalition doubts, page 1
Alice Thompson, page 17
Diary, page 23
Leading article, page 19



ITALIAN ELECTION

Clean-cut far right brushes off past

BY JOHN PHILLIPS

GIANFRANCO Fini, the National Alliance leader, rose from the rubble of the "*Tangentopoli*" corruption scandal to project a refreshing, clean-cut image that Italians have difficulty bolding responsible for the country's Fascist past.

Together with Alessandra Mussolini, the granddaughter of *Il Duce* and niece of Sophia Loren, Signor Fini, 42, formed the nucleus of a new generation of "good-looking

NEO-FASCISTS

Fascists" who denounce racists as "idiots", pour scorn on suggestions they would attempt a coup d'etat, and seek to atone for the massacre and deportation of thousands of Italians by Fascists during the Second World War. He declares himself "post-Fascist" and has denounced as an error Benito Mussolini's anti-Semitic laws in 1938. He received a significant Jewish vote when he narrowly missed being elected as Mayor of Rome in December but Jewish community leaders called on their members to stop him.

There is little on the surface in his programme that moderate right-wing politicians in any European country would disagree with. His Italian Social Movement, the main component in the National Alliance, demands law and order, better armed police, patriotism, curbs on illegal immigration and fewer taxes for shopkeepers.

Milan Midas ready to tackle corruption

*Even if not all Silvio Berlusconi's hopes are realised, he has managed to end the political stranglehold of old, **Tom Rhodes** writes*

It is said that Silvio Berlusconi has a private cemetery at the 18th-century family villa at Arcore, outside Milan, in which he has reserved some plots for his closest friends. There seems little chance that either Gianfranco Fini or Umberto Bossi, Signor Berlusconi's coalition partners in the right-wing Freedom Alliance, will be among them.

Thoughts of a government led by Signor Berlusconi but including two men whose neo-Fascist National Alliance and federalist Northern League seem so ideologically opposed raise uncertainty.

Those who have watched the irresistible rise of Signor Berlusconi from cruise-ship crooner to construction baron and from media magnate to Prime Minister-in-waiting say that there is much more to the Milanese businessman than the glamorous image created for him by his three private television networks. "One should not fall into the trap of thinking this man is in any way stupid or shallow," said a former close associate yesterday. "He is extremely intelligent and has the ability to command extraordinary loyalty from many diverse quarters."

His talent for leadership started early. Born in 1936, the son of a Milanese bank clerk, Signor Berlusconi attended an austere religious boarding school where, it is said, he would finish his homework early and then accept payment or sweets for helping his colleagues. After studying law and spending time as a master of ceremonies in dance halls along the Adriatic coast, he joined a construction company. He then set up Fininvest and tranformed the firm from modest property interests to the national giant it is today, controlling television channels, newspapers, Standa supermarkets and AC Milan, the leading football club.

He has shown an instinctive understanding of Italian aspirations and has managed to provide just what the public wants, whether it be quiet residential towns or semi-naked girls on television. He has been at the heart of a transformation in Italy's political culture from its backward, corrupt and paternalistic roots to a country of large private fortunes, fast cars and materialism. Now he must discover whether his Midas touch can be employed in

MAN IN THE NEWS

politics. His Forza Italia party is inexperienced and lacks any coherent formula to free Italy from the worst public debt and one of the worse unemployment records in Western Europe. Timing, however, is everything. The electorate is clearly no longer prepared to accept the corrupt political system that plagued Italy for more than 40 years. Signor Berlusconi has avoided any personal connection with the inquisitors. The crusading judges have come close, however, and even closer to his brother Paolo, chairman of Edilnord, a subsidiary of Fininvest. Much has been made of Signor Berlusconi's involvement in the shadowy Masonic lodge Propaganda Due (P2), which he joined in 1978. In the early 1970s, the lodge started a campaign of anti-Communist political manipulation, subversion and suspected terrorism culminating in an alleged role in the 1980 Bologna station bombing. Bettino Craxi, godfather to one of Signor Berlusconi's children, is on trial in Milan charged with profiting from Banco Ambrosiano, the lodge's bank. No one has yet shown that Signor Berlusconi had more than a fleeting connection with the lodge.

Politically, he has been compared to Mussolini and Ross Perot, the Texan tycoon who stood for the US presidency. Practically, he is probably neither. An avowed modernist, he has pledged to create a united and democratic Italy, says he will not let up on weeding out corruption, will tackle the Mafia, reduce taxes, dismantle the public sector and create new jobs.

Critics argue that Forza Italia — which has existed less than three months and largely comprises political newcomers — has little hope of governing.

One commentator said yesterday that rifts in Signor Berlusconi's alliance may prevent him remaining in power long enough to introduce the more radical elements of his programme. But he has broken the political stranglehold.

Ciampi to quit in mid-April

Rome: Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, Italy's Prime Minister, will resign in mid-April after a new parliament sits for the first time following general elections, his chief aide said yesterday.

Signor Ciampi, a technocrat in office since April last year, will stay on as a caretaker until a new government is formed, Antonio Maccanico said. Signor Ciampi has no political ties and did not stand in the elections. He has won wide respect for overseeing electoral and economic reform.

President Scalfaro yesterday called for the new parliament to guarantee stability. *(Reuter)*

Bossi shows he still has taste for a good scrap

FROM SARAH CUNNINGHAM IN MILAN

UMBERTO Bossi, the leader of the Northern League, made it clear yesterday that a tough Italian election campaign had removed none of his taste for a good scrap.

Absorbing the news of the resounding electoral victory of the right-wing Freedom Alliance, his first words to journalists were an attack on his supposed partners, the neo-Fascist National Alliance.

"The league will never support the reactionary right," he said. Signor Bossi showed he now intended making the political running: "It will be the league that will open consultations for the formation of the new government."

Although the right-wing alliance won 366 seats out of 630 in the Lower House, without the Northern League it would be without an absolute majority. The right's dramatic victory has underlined the

NORTHERN LEAGUE

tensions inherent in the alliance. While Signor Bossi has said that he wants a Swiss-style federal system, the neo-Fascists, led by Gianfranco Fini, back a strong centralised state. The raucous Signor Bossi, 52, who built up the league from an obscure federalist movement with his fiery rhetoric, spent much of his election campaign criticising the other alliance partner, Silvio Berlusconi.

"We cannot trust those who until yesterday sat down to eat at the table of the regime," he told a pre-election rally. This was a clear message for Signor Berlusconi, a close friend of Bettino Craxi, the disgraced former Prime Minister and Socialist Party leader.

The trial of Signor Craxi, who had his power base in Milan, as Signor Bossi and Signor Berlusconi do now, began in the city with exquisite timing yesterday. He and nine others are accused of corruption in connection with bribes allegedly paid to fix a deal between the state oil company and an insurance firm controlled by one of Italy's richest men, Salvatore Ligresti, who is also charged.

Signor Craxi did not appear in the cramped and smoky courtroom yesterday, but he is likely to have to make a showing soon after an appeal lodged by his lawyers for the trial to be moved to another city was rejected. In a letter to the trial judge, Signor Craxi said that he feared for his safety in Milan, and that he was particularly worried about threatening graffiti that has recently appeared on walls around his former fiefdom.

The uncovering of the scandals that brought the old political order down, making space for the new, began in the building where Signor Craxi's trial is now being held. The "Clean Hands" investigation that began two years ago revealed that the long-dominant Christian Democrats and their allies, Signor Craxi's Socialists, had used their power to plunder the state.

Drivers 30+
For big savings and better insurance
CALL FREE 0800 38 0800
quoting reference no. STS 07
COMMERCIAL UNION
We won't make a drama out of a crisis.

RAFFAELLO HOLIDAYS



IDYLLIC VENETO.... TO DISCOVER..

ATOL 1693 IATA ABTA A0393

VENICE, YOU ALREADY KNOW, NOW IS THE TIME TO EXPLORE AND DISCOVER THE OTHER MYRIAD DELIGHTS THE VENETO REGION HAS TO OFFER.....

Villas of the Renaissance Master Palladio, excellent cuisine, superb world-renowned wines and countryside which has been an inspiration to poets and artists throughout the centuries. Mountains, the rolling hills from Bardolino to Bassano del Grappa & Asolo and shimmering Lake Garda with its olive groves and vineyards...

A landscape of timeless serenity throughout the changing seasons of the year...

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE THE UNKNOWN VENETO. FLY-DRIVE WITH RAFFAELLO HOLIDAYS THE VENETO SPECIALISTS....

Hotel accommodation in 3 or 4 star hotels and beautiful Veneto villas - call us for your free brochure. - 071 383 0322.

RAFFAELLO HOLIDAYS, 65 Judd St, London WC1H 9QT

"See VENETO insert in today's Times"

After this week's shocking classroom attack in Middlesbrough, how do schools improve their security without becoming educational fortresses?

Learning the lessons of safety

NOBODY wants to turn schools into fortresses, as the headmaster of Hall Garth School in Middlesbrough said with feeling after Monday's stabbing there.

Perhaps he had in mind the grimmest educational fortress of them all, Jefferson High in Brooklyn, where armed security men patrol the corridors past barred windows and steel doors, where pupils and visitors have to pass through a phalanx of security devices including metal detectors, and where 70 pupils were nevertheless killed, crippled, shot or stabbed in four years. Infamous American redoubts like this — impossible to call them schools, really — seem object lessons in how not to tackle the issue of security in schools.

It is an issue though, and it does need tackling. Security is often thought to be a problem only in rough schools in rough areas (unlike Hall Garth in its peaceful suburb), but independent schools have been quicker off the mark about it than many State schools.

Margaret Kenyon, president of the Girls' Schools Association, cannot think of a single fee-paying school that hasn't tightened up its security in the past few years. When the Health & Safety Executive suggested five years ago that schools should provide access only through one main entrance, with other doors only opening outwards like theatre exits, a lot of independent school governors authorised the necessary expenditure and got on with it. Push-button access control systems on secondary doors are now commonplace in respectable schools in respectable places, and visitors can only get in during teaching hours if they ring a bell at the main door.

TO MRS Kenyon's own governors, at Withington Girls' School in Manchester, installing sophisticated alarm systems and security lights was simply a sensible response to the *Zeitgeist*. It was a sound investment, the sort of arrangement any office manager makes without thinking, to protect the occupants and fixtures of the building from intruders, thieves and vandals, and to reduce the insurance premiums. Regrettable, certainly, but hardly the death knell of the idea of the school as an accessible place of learning. A reasonably protected school is bound to be less open than, say, a public library, but anyone with legitimate business there can enter.



MARGOT NORMAN

The design of purpose-built comprehensives generally echoes the idealism of the whole comprehensive enterprise, being wide open to all corners. These buildings have doors all over the place and stand, unprotected, on flat expanses of grass. Those who control their budgets jib at, or just can't afford, the expense of making them secure; by way of justification they join the worthy, nostalgic chorus of voices intoning the virtues of openness and universal welcome. Some of them go on doing this even as their schools, windows broken and playgrounds vandalised, become just about as welcoming as an urban underpass. (No offence intended to the well-kept but unlucky Hall Garth, where the crises was handled with courage and dignity.)

It has always been more realistic to design a place of learning as one set slightly apart, a place where the raucous muddle of the outside world gives way to an atmosphere of order and purpose. Designers of such buildings, from those who built medieval cloisters to the Victorians who put solid walls around the premises and set inspiring inscriptions over their imposing main entrances, have instinctively realised this.

It was part of the idea that learning was a privilege, that children were fortunate to be there getting the benefit of their teachers' wisdom. Not so much a fortress as a hallowed hall, but designed with a shrewd appreciation of the damage and destruction that the outside world could cause if it were just allowed to flow in unhindered.

IT SOUNDS as if I'm dreaming of ivory towers. On the contrary, I'm saying it is time to stop dreaming.

Nigel de Gruchy is accused of exaggerating when he says 1,600 teachers a year get assaulted in the course of their duties, but he is only extrapolating from the Government's own Elton report, which in 1988 surveyed 4,400 teachers during a single termtime week, found that just over 2 per cent of them had experienced some sort of physical aggression, and found furthermore that the vast majority said it was just a typical week. As leader of the National Association of Schoolmasters/ Union of Women Teachers, he is doing a brisk trade in personal alarms for his members at £5 a time.

Sensible security measures can save money in the long term and, more importantly, make much easier the teacher's proper job of turning little ruffians into decent citizens, rather than big ruffians. Brian Jones, headmaster of Archbishop Tenison's School by the Oval cricket ground, heartily blesses his 16 state-of-the-art, closed-circuit TV cameras.

Two and a half years ago he inherited a rough comprehensive troubled by bad behaviour among the boys, many of them drawn from the toughest Brixton families, and alarming incursions by their big brothers and assorted thieves and lunatics. Things are not perfect since the governors of the newly grant-maintained school brought in the security gear, but theft and vandalism are well down, the boys behave better with Big Brother's eye on them, and staff morale is up now that teachers are free of the sheer time-consuming hassle of operating in a place where any equipment not nailed down was either broken or missing.

Oh, and the place is not, actually, a fortress. It is rather more like a school, with all the traditional connotations of the word, than it was before.

Will a broken heart end a wonderful life?

James Stewart's health is failing since the death of his wife of 45 years. **Giles Coren** reports on the couples who can't — or won't — live without each other

James Stewart, for 50 years a paragon of Hollywood optimism and the epitome of understated emotion on screen, is today suffering a terrible private grief. After 45 years of marriage his wife, Gloria, succumbed to lung cancer in February, and now the 85-year-old actor is said to have lost the will to live.

When they married, in 1949, Stewart was a highly decorated war hero of the American air force and an internationally acclaimed film star, with an Oscar for *Philadelphia Story* already to his name. The Stewarts' subsequent happiness and fidelity was an example to a profession not known for the stability of its relationships. But Gloria's death, at the age of 75, has led to a decline in Stewart's health, and his family have expressed fears for his life.

When Gloria died Stewart said publicly: "I'm devastated. I don't know how I'm going to live without her. The only consolation is knowing that we will soon be reunited. Our love will continue in heaven." According to friends he has since told his children he does not want to go on.

Husbands or wives often express such sentiments on the death of their spouse, and Stewart's decline in physical health suggests he means it. Dr Eleni Palazidou, a consultant psychiatrist at the Royal London Hospital, says: "The symptoms of bereavement are much like those of a depressive illness. The bereaved partner will experience a persistently low mood, a loss of interest in their usual occupations, insomnia, and a loss of appetite which leads to weight loss and, eventually, real physical decline."

Unlike clinical depression, though, the pain of bereavement heals with time. Recovery, according to Dr Palazidou, depends on the amount of support available at home, and the extent to which the bereaved partner feels there are other things in his or her life to cling to. The symptoms are also proportionately worse the longer a couple were together. Stewart has refused to leave his Beverly Hills home and is apparently choosing to suffer his grief alone. At 85, his time for the natural healing process, which can take ten years or longer, is obviously limited.

Several times in recent months, the obituary columns have had occasion to record the consecutive deaths of couples in the public eye. When the newsreader Leonard Parkin's wife died last year, just four weeks after the death of her husband, a friend said: "The grief was too much to bear. She just seemed to have given up on life." Such words offer scant consolation to the children of James Stewart.

Only last week Giulietta Masina, the actress wife of Federico Fellini, died less than five months after her husband. The couple had been married for 50 years, and Fellini's fatal stroke had caused her tremendous public grief. Clutching a rosary at Fellini's state funeral, she waved goodbye to her husband's coffin and appeared inconsolable. In her bereavement she was not able, or did not choose, to fight the cancer that afflicted her.

Like the Fellinis, Jo and Laura Grimond pursued their careers together, Laura working for the Liberal Party which her husband led from 1956 to 1967. Jo Grimond's death ended a political era; Laura died three months later.

Whether or not existing ills are merely exacerbated, the romantic idea of death from a broken heart, the fate of fictional lovers throughout history, is by no means limited to the realm of fantasy. Colin Murray Parkes, formerly senior lecturer and consultant psychiatrist at the Royal London Hospital, has even written a book on the subject: *Bereavement: Studies of Grief in Adult Life*. "There is real evidence that in the first six months after the loss of a spouse a partner is in increased danger of succumbing to fatal illness," Dr Murray Parkes says, "and in fact it is widowed husbands, rather than wives, who are in the greatest danger." Cardio-vascular problems are particularly likely to worsen, and since Stewart suffers from heart disease and is dependent on a pacemaker, the prognosis is surely bleak.

Though Stewart appears to be in danger on many counts, his admiring public might take solace in the Roman myth of Philemon and Baucis. A poor couple who offered shelter to Jupiter and Mercury when they visited Earth disguised as men, they were offered, for their compassion, any reward the gods could grant. They chose, as Stewart might have done, to die together; and on their deaths they became trees, growing next to each other with their branches intertwining.

If James Stewart succumbs, his epitaph might well share the sentiment of Sir Henry Wotton's lines on the death of a wife shortly after her husband in 1651:

"He first deceased; she for a little tried/To live without him: liked it not, and died."



James and Gloria Stewart and twins in 1952 — now his heart, already weak, seems broken

ALL VS. ALMOST.

Dell's built-in trackball VS. tacked-on trackballs.

Crisp, clear dual scan STN colour displays VS. washed out pastels on single scan passive screens.

Dell's affordable Type II or III PCMCIA expansion for industry-standard peripherals VS. overpriced proprietary accessories.

Access to expert notebook technicians 8am to 8pm, weekdays VS. access to an answering machine.

33MHz with local bus video VS. 5MHz with standard ISA video. (No comparison.)

DELL LATITUDE 433C

£1,799+VAT excl. delivery

- 9.5" dual scan STN Colour Display
- 8.6" x 11.7" x 1.7"
- 6.5lbs (2.9kg)
- Dell Finance 3 year rental:* £16.12 per week, excluding delivery and VAT

DELL LATITUDE 433M

£1,399+VAT excl. delivery

- 9.5" Monochrome LCD
- 8.6" x 11.7" x 1.7"
- 5.8lbs (2.6kg)
- Dell Finance 3 year rental:* £12.54 per week, excluding delivery and VAT

COMMON FEATURES:

- Intel® 486™ SL enhanced 33MHz processor
- 4Mb RAM
- Local bus video with 512Kb Video RAM
- Type II or III PCMCIA expansion slot
- Built-in trackball
- 3.5" Floppy Drive
- NiMH Battery
- MS-DOS 6.21, MS-Windows™ 3.1
- CommWorks®, Compuserve

Other bundles available



Feature for feature, pound for pound, we'll put the new Dell® Latitude™ up against any notebook in its class. Confident talk.

Well, we think that you'll be challenged to find more features and better support on any similarly priced notebook.

And with our special bundled offers, the challenge might well become a chore.

Call 0344 720000 for further information on the new Dell Latitude range. And don't settle for anything less.

DELL

0344 720000

Between 8am and 8pm weekdays, 10am to 4pm Saturdays.

T143

Dell is a registered trademark of the Dell Computer Corporation 1992. Intel, Intel Inside, Intel 486 are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. CommWorks is a registered trademark of Travelling Software. Delivery is charged at £20 + VAT per system. Prices correct at 25.3.94. *Dell Rental is offered (subject to status) businesses trading 3 years or more.

Some welcome to Britain

If arriving at Heathrow is a nightmare for a Londoner, what must it be like for foreigners?

I knew I was cutting it fine: lunch in Warsaw, dinner at the Dorchester. But in this age of open frontiers and jet travel Hyde Park Corner did not seem so remote from the Polish capital.

The Polish end went well: an £8 cab ride from Rocco Forte's newly reopened Bristol Hotel by Warsaw's old town took me in 20 minutes to the equally new, German-built international terminal at Okecie airport, small but efficient, with a wedge-shaped design that accommodates the maximum number of aircraft with minimal passenger walking distance. Even my flight, BA 851 to London Heathrow, left on time at 1600 local. With two and a half hours' flying time, a one-hour time difference, and only hand luggage, I could in theory be on the ground at 1730 and in a taxi to the Dorchester with time to spare for dinner at 1915. Some theory! Some practice!

The problems began crossing the Belgian coast. Strong head winds, the first officer announced. We landed 30 minutes late. I had already tried to compensate by changing in the lavatory — no mean achievement. Only my black tie remained to be tied as I sat clutching my flight bag on the Tarmac. The first officer dealt the next blow: "I'm terribly sorry, ladies and gentlemen, but there appears to be another aircraft occupying our stand. Once he goes we should be on stand in about 30 seconds." It took nearly 15 minutes.

Muttering resignedly to one another, we passengers crowded impatiently towards the front exit. But now it was the purser's turn to sock it to us: "I'm very sorry, ladies and gentlemen . . ." he began. The air bridge connecting to the gate was out of service. After a contortionist's mid-aisle about-turn, we trotted, docile but gloomy, down a staircase into the Heathrow drizzle.

Find a phone, was my instant reaction. I must call my wife and tell her I shall be late. The nearest public telephone turned out to be a five-minute sprint down almost a mile of corridors.

The worst was over, I thought. Bag in hand I headed for the customs channels: all three of them, these days. But I am no slouch in these matters. I know that the blue channel is for arrivals from EEA countries only; I also know my Euro-acronyms, that EEA means European Economic Area, which means the European Union plus the countries which used to be EFTA. I also know that Poland is not one of them. Therefore, honest internationalist that I am and with an allowable litre of tax-free Polish vodka in my bag, I headed for the old-fashioned green channel. Which is how the customs officer came to stop me.

I tried to restrain my indignation as the clock ticked by another five minutes. Then, with a palpable sigh of relief, which must have left him wondering if he should have searched more thoroughly, I headed out into the crowded chaos of Terminal One arrivals in search of a taxi rank.

The standard fare from Heathrow to central London in a black cab is about £35, which is bad enough — but in the continuing absence of a high-speed rail link, the Underground journey takes almost an hour to trundle through the western suburbs. As I headed for the cab rank, my heart sank at the sight of a hundred baggage-laden travellers fuming in frustration next to a line of seemingly abandoned taxis. What had happened, I appealed to a smirking man in a traffic warden's peaked cap. "Gridlock mate. Nuffing moving in any direction out there."

In despair I took the long travelator down to the Tube, where the nightmare of London Transport awaited. "How to get a ticket please sir?" was the lamenting cry of a thousand foreigners dropping their Welcome to Britain packs in despair to join the queue and battle in varieties of accented English with two solitary Sikh ticket sellers.

There are, of course, the machines, meticulously labelled with every variety of ticket from four-zone Travelcard to day return to Hackney or Hounslow. "Please, where is central London?" asked the Japanese businessman ahead of me. I suggested Marble Arch and we then spent another five minutes trying to work out why this machine — one of only two which proudly advertised the facility to accept banknotes — refused to take his. Only then did I notice the little blue electronic sign — like everything else in English only — unashamedly announcing "No notes".

Eventually armed with a ticket, I collapsed on to the grubby seat and struggled with my bow tie. Anger had given way to despair and, as we stopped for a futile further five minutes at empty Northfields, despondency. Is this really the gateway to Britain, Europe's favoured transatlantic springboard? There is almost nothing the IRA could do that would damage the reputation of Heathrow any more than has been done through incompetent internal planning, inadequate infrastructure links, and a total lack of overall co-ordination.

PETER MILLAR

AEROFILMS



Incompetent planning has irreparably damaged Heathrow

A gloss on the jaded career girls

If you've fought your way to the top only to feel betrayed, take comfort in this month's sell-out *Vogue*





RACHEL KELLY

The nation's women bosses are talking of little else. Washing their hands in the executive washroom, to which they have just got the key, the words on their Chanel-shaded lips are "jaded career girl syndrome".

Vogue minted the phrase in a piece this month entitled "The death of the career girl", flagged on its cover with the question "What went wrong?"

The magazine, in West London newsagents at least, is sold out. Career girls without copies have had to beg career girls *with* copies to get their secretaries to fax them the piece. *Its author, Eve MacSweeney, has become an essential name-drop, along the lines of "Have you seen Eve's piece?"*

For the unenlightened, and to save *Vogue's* £2.70 cover price, the gist of the article is this: you're in your early thirties, and (I quote) "you've been to university... butted the bastions of the *citadel of work*... got your first permanent job... fetched coffee, licked stamps, cried in the loo... your overriding memory is one of struggle. But struggle you did. You got one promotion, then another. You acquired status and a secretary... you made transatlantic calls in the evening; you wore jackets that half your salary went on buying."

In short, you became a successful career girl. Then one day, when your nerves let up for moment, "you looked around you and thought, *is that it?*"

The reality of a career girl's life falls short of the myth of the ads and the TV series in which she looks good, dresses well, and is never out of a restaurant. The glass ceiling, the competitiveness, and conflict between family and work have all left many professional women with a life of all slog and no joy.

The career girl is not even especially rich. Few women reach the top jobs or escape economic dependence on their husbands. She is likely to spend much of her salary on stress relief. As one fashion buyer confided to *Vogue*: "By the time I'd paid for the dry cleaning, taxis and shopping at the late-night deli, then the manicures and the aromatherapy massages, there was nothing left. Now I'm freelance, and earning considerably less, it's the first time in my life I've had savings."

Such sentiments will ring an enormous bell with any working woman. The *Vogue* article articulated what many career girls feel, but have been frightened to express even to their peers for fear of appearing soft or uncommitted in a world which has only just accepted them. By appearing in a magazine devoted to glamour, the subject is no longer taboo, and an outpouring from women has followed.

For there is much to discuss, and no easy answers. The feminist author Kate Figes says: "There's no question of women wanting to turn back the clock. Nearly all the women I spoke to felt that work was essential both financially and to keep them sane."

But those who make their careers a priority may well have to sacrifice much in terms of personal life. Dr Marilyn Davidson, a lecturer in organisational pyschology at Manchester University, says that high-flying women are less likely to be married or in a partnership. Those who try to combine the two will be permanently stressed.

One answer is for employers to recognise that it makes economic sense to make full use of the talents of their workforce, and to become more woman-friendly by breaking down the assumptions of the traditional male office environment. Another is to learn from the story of Jane Bingham, a London doctor.

She grew up to the refrain of her mother lamenting her own thwarted promise. She studied medicine and specialised in surgery, and spent her twenties studying for gruelling exams. As she got older, she found her ambitions increasingly challenged.

"Professors of surgery would tell me unapologetically that I was in a man's game. Perhaps, *though I hate to* admit it, they were right. I got married and, without planning it, pregnant."

When her daughter was born, she announced to her mother: "If that was the blissful life of a career girl you can shove it, frankly." She has since retrained as a GP and works three days a week. She describes herself as "immeasurably happier".

Britain

Do we really care if our leaders look a shambles? **Alice Thomson** reports



On the Westminster catwalk — Virginia Bottomley, left, and Harriet Harman, right, have to be immaculate, while Kenneth Clarke can get away with looking like an Oxfam customer

Politics is only skin deep

British voters following the Italian elections may have been amused to see a key leader of a main party, Alessandra Mussolini, posing in her lacy black underwear without any apparent damage to her political prospects. In Britain, however, if Mrs Bottomley posed in even a demure pair of white Marks & Spencer briefs there would be uproar.

A female MP in Britain has a rough ride compared with her European counterpart. First, she will have to convince often hostile selection committees that she is tough enough to cope in Westminster. Then she will have to prove to the party hierarchy that she will not crack, or worse, screech at the Dispatch Box. And at the same time she has to persuade her family that they are not losing for ever their chief washer-up, cook and nanny.

If that isn't enough, political women also have to show that they can look freshly feminine, demure and fragrant throughout the day. And the more responsibilities they get the more important it is to buy those neat, toning suits, (tartans for Tories, primary colours for Labour), flesh coloured tights and patent pumps.

While her male counterpart can get away with a crumpled suit all week, a woman has to make sure that her bra strap is not showing if she is to retain the respect of the electorate. John Major can have a safety pin holding up his trousers in his official portrait. When Kenneth Clarke stands on the Treasury steps in brown suede shoes, stained shirt and flapping pink tie, everybody says that he has important things on his mind. But who would take Harriet Harman seriously if she had a ladder in her tights when attacking the Government on tax issues?

Senior female politicians can find themselves getting up at 6am to give their children breakfast, before moving on to the radio car to give an interview for the *Today* programme. They may get a quick tweak from the makeup girl before going on to a television breakfast show, but then it is often straight on to lunch with lobby correspondents, followed by a brief appearance in the House, and dinner with constituents.

Nor does the House do much to help. The days when Barbara Castle fought for a women's lavatory in the Cabinet corridor and *Tribune* newspaper complained that the women's room contained nothing but an ironing board are passing. But there is still no hairdresser at Westminster — only a barber's shop.

Men find all this women's stuff amusing. Last week three female MPs gave evidence to the Select Committee on Employment, which is made up entirely of men, on ways in which women's lives could be improved. The women were beautifully turned out. The men all slouched around sniggering and passing notes as Diane Abbott, Labour MP for Hackney North, explained how she had to get up at 6am to look after her baby daughter and often wasn't back until after midnight.

Conservative Central Office does understand some of the problems of the woman politician, however. It has run seminars for candidates to help them tackle such delicate problems as whether they are a spring, or summer person, and which colours suit them best. The Labour Party used to allow its women to look a little more dishevelled, with Shirley Williams regularly letting her hair fly in all directions. But with the red rose has come the little red suit.

At Christchurch, the Liberal Democrat Diana Maddock was under so much press scrutiny that she had to buy a new wardrobe to cover the four-week campaign. The Conservative male candidate — who only had to choose the colour of his tie — had a woman from Conservative Central Office to help.

Undoubtedly, clothes can help — as Baroness Thatcher was the first to point out. John Major got no votes recently for the fur hat he wore in Russia, but when the then Mrs Thatcher arrived in Moscow in 1987 she credited her new black coat and fox-fur hat with having given her a real boost in the polls. She would also use her suit colour to warn of impending moods.

In Westminster, female MPs stand out like marigolds on a tarmac runway. No other professional women wear as much yellow as the women of the House. No doubt they hope that the colour will catch their constituents' eyes and persuade them that their MP is there plugging away for their interests rather than writing love poems to researchers.

But the ability of female MPs to combine the roles of Claudia Schiffer, Baroness Thatcher, Marjorie Proops and Felicity Kendal in one day — and one carefully selected suit — should get the recognition it deserves. If not, then the electorate will have to accept smudged lipstick, laddered tight and crumpled clothes — and simply concentrate on what their elected representative has to say.

AMSTERDAM • BARCELONA • BOSTON • BRUGES • BUDAPEST • DUBLIN • FLORENCE • LISBON • MADRID • PARIS • PRAGUE • ROME • SEVILLE • VENICE

TODAY ONLY

£191 £292 ROME

- Depart Fridays in April, May and June
- Return BA flights from London Gatwick
- 2 nights in ☆☆☆ San Marco Hotel
- 2 nights in ☆☆☆☆ Alboni for only £203 per person
- Extra nights possible



FLORENCE £311 £194

- Depart Fridays in April, May & June
- Return BA flights from Heathrow
- 2 nights in ☆☆☆ Leonardo da Vinci
- 2 nights in ☆☆☆☆ Anglo American for only £200 per person
- Extra night possible



£224 £314 VENICE

- Depart Fridays in April, May and June
- Return flights from Gatwick
- 3 nights in ☆ Hotel Minerva and Netuno

No extra nights



REDUCED PRICES APPLY TO CONFIRMED BOOKINGS BEFORE 18.00 TODAY

Minimum numbers required

Above prices are based upon two people sharing a room. Single room supplements applicable. All offers subject to availability.

Please quote the reference no. when phoning for reservations or further details on:

081-960 9066

Regent Travel Services

7 days a week 09.00 to 18.00

ABTA C5278 ATOL 2720

Why Britain is more than a match for Beavis and Butt-head

Who's kidding who in America?

THEY are the "voice of a generation", whose philosophy *Time* magazine has compared to that of Italo Calvino, Luigi Pirandello and Michael Frayn. *Rolling Stone* magazine has put them twice on the cover and proclaimed them "idiot savants" who "speak the truth". The *Washington Post* thinks they are "existential beings".

Who are these enigmatic creatures? They are the cartoon characters Beavis and Butt-head, two American teenagers with pimples, braces and heavy metal T-shirts. Their hobbies are watching MTV, cruising the malls, torturing small animals and discussing the consistency of their snot. They speak in stuttering monotones, punctuated with mirthless "Heh, heh, heh"s.

In America Beavis and Butt-head have cult status. Their half-hour daily slot was the most popular programme on MTV *US last year. Teenagers imitate* the irritating laugh, quote lengthy chunks of the dialogue and hold B&B parties. Two studios are fighting for the film rights.

Until recently, only British viewers with access to MTV could share in the joys of B&B putting their neighbour's dog in a washing machine and sniffing paint thinner to get high. But from next month all of us can share in the B&B phenomenon. Channel 4 has bought the rights to their non-adventures, which will be shown every Friday at 11.30pm.

Channel 4 is delighted with its purchase, but many people are horrified by the decision. Bill Hilary, who commissioned it, has been bombarded with letters from parents. "They have never seen the programme, but they say things like 'This is outrageous, it's going to corrupt our children'," he says.



Rolling Stone magazine even put Butt-head in a suit for its cover

Their fears are founded on news from America about a five-year-old in Ohio who set his house on fire, killing his two-year-old sister. His mother blamed the incident on the pyromaniacal Beavis, whose antics her son watched regularly. A former television executive has used his state lottery winnings of $10 million to set up a B&B hotline. To date, 4,000 Americans have called in to voice fears that their children may copy the duo's violent antics. The programme now occupies only late-night slots.

Mr Hilary points out that Channel 4 never intended the programme for children's television. He sees it as belonging to a long comic tradition of anarchy and irony — describing it as a mix between *Tom and Jerry* and *The Young Ones*. Mike Judge, the programme's 30-year-old creator and now a millionaire, says it is a passing fad that will burn itself out.

CERTAINLY watching the first episode of B&B, it is hard to see what all the fuss is about. The badly-drawn Beavis and Butt-head are there to be laughed at, not with. They are ugly, cowardly and girl-friendless, and a dire warning of what happens to people who watch too much MTV.

The problem seems to be that America, unused to irony, is largely oblivious to the fact that, as they slander the Government and cat-call women, Beavis and Butt-head are really making fun of the millions slumped in front of the television.

The programme's scriptwriters and the scribes of *Newsweek* can see the satire in two teenagers who, in a politically-correct era, get their kicks from running over hippies singing peace songs, and mock family values with exchanges like "Why is that guy eating dinner with those old folks?" "Maybe he's being punished." They note the irony that PhD theses are being prepared on characters who channel-surf for hours, making comments like "that's cool" and "that sucks".

I suspect that the British, with a training in unsavoury comic characters such as Basil Fawlty and the racist Alf Garnett, will get the joke within the first five minutes, say "that sucks", and start channel-surfing for something new.

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

9 million people could pay less credit card interest. Are you one of them?

It's a fact. 99% of all people who leave a balance outstanding each month on their credit card will save money by transferring their balances to the new Royal Bank MasterCard.

Act now and we'll transfer your balance at no cost. What's more, you benefit from no annual fee (guaranteed for life); 1.25% per month (16% APR) on regular balances and an amazing 1.14% per month (14.5% APR) on balances over £1,000. The sooner you call, the sooner you'll start saving.

COMPARISON OF INTEREST RATES

CARD	MONTHLY RATE	ANNUAL FEE	APR PURCHASES
New Royal Bank of Scotland MasterCard	1.25% (balances to £1,000) 1.14% (balances of £1,000 and over)	£0	16% 14.5%
The New GM Card	1.53%	£0	19.9%
Barclays Visa	1.585%	£10	21.9%
Lloyds Access	1.5%	£12	21%
Midland Access	1.595%	£12	22.3%
NatWest Access	1.6%	£12	22.4%

CALL FREE NOW ON 0800 16 16 16

Please send me full details on the new low interest, no annual fee MasterCard NOW

To: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, FREEPOST, RM1011, Southend-on-Sea, ESSEX, SS0 7BR.
I would like more information about the new Royal Bank MasterCard (Please use block capitals)

Surname _____ Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____
First Name _____ Other initials _____
Address _____
_____
_____ Postcode _____
Home Telephone _____ 0096
Are you an existing Royal Bank of Scotland Access or Visa Cardholder? Yes ☐ No ☐

The Royal Bank of Scotland

NOTE: CREDIT FACILITIES AND INFORMATION ABOUT THEM ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. SUBJECT TO STATUS. THE CARDHOLDER IS REQUIRED TO MAKE MONTHLY PAYMENTS WITHIN 25 DAYS OF STATEMENT DATE OF AT LEAST THE MINIMUM SUM SPECIFIED ON THE STATEMENT, WHICH SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN 5% OF THE OUTSTANDING BALANCE OR £5, WHICHEVER IS THE GREATER, OR THE FULL AMOUNT DUE IF LESS THAN £5. INTEREST IS APPLIED FROM THE DATE THE TRANSACTION IS APPLIED TO THE ACCOUNT. THE APR'S MAY BE SUBJECT TO VARIATION. CURRENT INTEREST RATE AT 12 JANUARY 1994.

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Registered Office: 36 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YB. Registered in Scotland No. 90312.

Alan Coren



■ When it comes to sex talk, adults are no better than they should be

Today's is a tricky subject; it is so tricky that the more we attempt to address its trickiness, the trickier it becomes. I first realised this at the age of 12, when the Rev. A.W. Lumsden crept into our scripture class one morning in an obvious state of funk hitherto unimaginable in a man whose "Onward Christian Soldiers!" had only recently been rallying the ranks from Tobruk to the Ardennes in return for a tin plate that buckled his forehead in wet weather, and tremulously announced that he would, today, be departing from the exegesis of Isaiah in order to talk to us about the, er, thing between males and females. He then took out a piece of blue chalk and a piece of pink chalk, and, with an unsteady hand, drew on the blackboard what appeared to be a bathtap (blue) and a plum (pink).

What happened next has never been entirely clear; I know only that when 34 small boys had finished choking, weeping, and rolling about, the Rev. A.W. Lumsden had gone. Sometime during the morning break, the two sketches were erased from the blackboard, and the matter was never referred to again. Whether it will be raised when Dr Donald Mawhinnie and Mr John Patten finally join the Rev. A.W. Lumsden in that elysial billet to which all Christian soldiers are finally posted I cannot say, but what I can is that teaching the facts of life to those who have hitherto experienced only its fantasies will always involve first confronting that hurdle of risibility which very few are able to clear: if, after 40 years, our education system has succeeded only in replacing the bathtap with the Mars bar, then it is still a long way from vaulting it.

So then, do I have anything useful to contribute to the current hysterical shenanigans over the sexual instruction of children? Nothing. But it was in the course of arriving at that conclusion that it occurred to me that I might just have something to contribute when it came to the sexual instruction of adults. For is it not undeniable that, whatever the consequences of the ignorance of our young, it is the ignorance of our mature — and our leading mature, at that — that is bringing the nation to its moral knees? Say yes, so that we can move on to part two.

Suppose each workplace had its adult sex classroom. At Westminster, say, experts would be on hand to advise members that if, for example, an unemployed Mediterranean soubrette appeared to take a shine to them, the correct course of action would not be to repair immediately to a bugged bedsitter; or that, if one's career had been dedicated to moral castigation, it would not be much advanced by lurking, ill-disguised, in the Chelsea shrubbery for the coast to clear.

For top jurists, each day would start with, perhaps, the reminder that the back alleys of King's Cross should be driven through at more than 3 mph, or that other relaxations from the bench's cares should be sought than foxtrotting with another bloke in popular Hamburg nitespots; while few citizens, surely, would object to forking out for tutors to visit royal households and teach the rudiments of everything from safe cellphone foreplay to the correct dress code for soliciting financial advice in public, and why a ginger wig might not be the best protection when entering the back doors of Marylebone hotels, even if it would be better than nothing when entering the front doors of Marylebone massage parlours.

As for actors, TV personalities, and all those other glasses wherein the culture dresses itself, it is difficult to know where to begin: but if, for instance, instructors were on hand to suggest that a parked Range Rover might well attract the attention of a policeman unlikely to be put off by the explanation that the tights were being removed only as a wise precaution against the eventuality of the fanbelt snapping, I cannot believe that such sensible advice would go unheeded, any more than I can believe that our island culture would not benefit if its senior soldiers were taught to understand that those who allow themselves to be publicly mauled on the Dorchester forecourt might subsequently be able to find a publicist to represent them.

And that is everything I have to say on sex education. Except that there may perhaps be a lesson in it for our children, after all.

JOHN MANNING



Has Douglas Hurd's Greek compromise surrendered British sovereignty, or does it mean that we will live to fight again when the stakes are higher?

Mr Major's phoney war

In the campaigns of 1996, Britain will again have to stand up for common sense and liberty on the battlefields of Europe

Simon Jenkins

What a mess. What a real mess. But before we all round on John Major again, I beg to make one point on the conversation-killer of the decade. Qualified majority voting in Europe does matter.

It matters because it is the path to European homogenisation. It matters because it is the means by which Brussels seeks to enforce its will on reluctant member states. It matters because the new rules make interference easier, and interference on present showing is in the direction of higher costs and lower competitiveness. The aim of increasing the number of countries needed to block a proposal is not really to promote trade. It is ensure that if we are all to be outgunned by Americans and Asians, we are outgunned as one.

So qualified majority voting matters. But how much does it matter? As the pollsters say, a lot, a little or not very much? Is it a Major-must-go issue; a Hurd resignation issue? I have lain awake at night. I have wrapped my head in a cold towel. I have followed qualified majority voting down dark alleys, out into the park and along the canal. I have dressed it in Halloween clothes and made it say boo at me. Yet I cannot find it more terrifying at 27 than it was at 23.

Despite being a firm Euro-sceptic, I believe the Government should have kept its powder dry over this. That neglected political goddess, a sense of proportion, should have been invoked. Neither Silvio Berlusconi nor François Mitterrand, nor even Helmut Kohl is losing sleep over majority voting rights. There are a hundred ways to skin the cat of qualified majority voting. Other leaders know that being a "good" bad European is an art not a science. Why is Britain so poor at this art while Italy and France practice it with aplomb?

One of the "concessions" Mr Hurd brought back from Greece at the weekend was that the new voting is merely transitional until 1996. But we could have guessed that already. Everything is up for grabs in 1996. As Sir Leon Brittan points out in an elegant apologia for Eurocentralism published this week, the EU cannot continue on its present lines. The 1996 review must tear its institutions up by the roots. For all its protestations of reform, Brussels is a bureaucratic outrage, arrogant of its power, tolerant of corruption and whimsical in the rules it enforces on others. Its penetration into the lives of Europe's citizens will, I believe, become more and more counterproductive to its interest. (Anybody who believes Brussels is chastened after Maastricht should be at the receiving end of a so-called "health and safety" directive.) But since the Brussels organism must mutate after expansion next year, the opportunity for reform can at least be seized.

This means that 1996 — not 1994 — should have been planned as Mr Major's mother of all Euro-battles. Two years from now, Britain should seriously review its EU membership, weighing the gains and losses and making its stand on what powers it wishes to recover, what taxation to refuse, what opt-outs to demand. The war will not end in 1996, but there should be a conflict to change the history of Europe. At this Waterloo, all the guns should be pointing the same way, up the road to Brussels.

Signor Berlusconi's victory in Rome, not the voting row, is the true pointer to this new Europe. The fragmentary tendency sweeping most European states is bound to strengthen. Just as the Spanish Government had to devolve power to its provinces, so Rome must grant discretion to the Northern Leagues as the price of loyalty to a new confederacy. The EU has itself embarked on a Machiavellian bid to circumvent nation-state governments by currying favour with subnational regions. The bribes are already producing hundreds of miles of unnecessary roads in Scotland.

This tactic cannot work for long. Europe's tribal entities — from Lapland to Sicily, from East Prussia to Catalonia — are emerging from the mist of history, but not as part of some Indo-European renaissance, with Jacques Delors as convener of the hordes. They are political antibodies. Regional movements are reacting against the meddling and standardisation of national governments. Brussels cannot ease this pain, however much money it lavishes; Brussels is itself the pain writ large. Ask any employer to choose between a Whitehall directive and a Brussels one. He will sigh and opt for Whitehall.

Yet the European Commission's problem over the next two years is not to stop itself over-regulating. Bureaucracies are incapable of doing that themselves. No, the commission's toughest task will be to persuade the EU governments to enforce the regulations already in place. Far from becoming overweening, I suspect Brussels will gradually see its power atrophy. What clout will a Berlusconi government in Rome have in enforcing European employment directives in Milan, or Madrid in Barcelona, or Paris in Corsica? Euro-anarchy, already rife in Italy and Greece, is the prospect. This in turn will infuriate the northern states, resentful of the regulations they enforce on themselves and the subsidies they pay to the south. Europe 1996 will be a continent of introverted, angry, nervous governments, careless of Brussels. Those who look with dismay at the rise of a subnationalist right wing in Italy have seen nothing yet.

That is all for 1996. For the present, British politics should take a break from Europe. There is no consensus in Britain for wholesale withdrawal from the EU. That would be far more divisive than Mr Hurd's periodic skirmishes with the Euro-rebels, painful though they are. Mr Major won his Maastricht victory. He is entitled to support from his party in sticking with its spirit until the 1996 review. Why he did not plead this over the latest argument is a mystery, given the certainty of climbdown. He had no need to pick a fight.

A sensible Prime Minister does not play domestic politics with foreign policy. It is too dangerous. He keeps it simple, keeps it statesmanlike. Mr Major's problem, and it seems incurable, lies not in his views. He remains a Euro-sceptic at heart, if not a destructive one. His problem lies in his speechwriting. There was no textual inconsistency between his "heart of Europe" effusions during Maastricht ratification and his chauvinist outpourings of last week, but there was a world of difference in tone. Plainly the Prime Minister should have kept his peace on qualified majority voting. He should have left it to Mr Hurd to do a deal and sell it to the sceptics. Britain and Spain disagreed with the expansion formula. So be it. But at a point in negotiation, the diplomat either makes for cover or puts his gun on the table.

John Major had no gun. Yet somehow his political insecurity got the better of him. He was facing the private horror of the impending European elections and the increasingly sinister Portillo-Lilley-Redwood triad in Cabinet. He decided to play to the gallery. He disobeyed all the diplomatic rules. He pinned his prestige to a specific figure, the "unacceptable 27", rather than a fudgeable concept. He turned a barter into a matter of principle: "safeguarding the rights of minorities". When told by advisers that his demand was unsustainable, he redefined it as a "bargaining position".

The Prime Minister's European partners took him at his word. They bore him no particular ill will, but when he offered them his chin and pointed to it with a jeer, what could they do? "This will hurt you more than hurts us," they said. Wallop! Mr Major once again found himself on the canvas, gazing dizzily at the ceiling and wondering what went wrong. Mr Hurd can tell him.

Can rows over Europe go on like this for ever? They are a dreary, exhausting, debilitating business. They turn foreign secretaries into zombies and bore the electorate to death. Like the Hundred Years War (which settled nothing), they no sooner subside than they flare up again over some triviality. All we can conclude is that such rows are preferable to war. They are war by other means, economic ones. The Tories may be weary of such conflicts. They may groan as *Henry V* moves into parts two, three, four . . . *ad infinitum*. But come 1996 they will be back under the walls of Harfleur, whether they like it or not. By then they need a coherent plan of attack. They are tired of closing the wall up with their English dead.

How Hurd betrayed Britain

Sack the Foreign Secretary, urges Woodrow Wyatt

Douglas Hurd is a decent, intelligent man, but on Europe he is totally out of touch with the British people. One has only to consider his provenance. Aged 22, he entered the diplomatic service, remaining there for 14 years. In 1968, he was Edward Heath's private secretary, and when Heath became Prime Minister became his political secretary, 1970-74. From 1979 to 1983, he was Minister of State at the Foreign Office. He is more an official of the Foreign Office, which has been wrong on most major issues this century, than he is a politician, and his approach to Europe is closer to Heath's than to John Major's (witness his badly received speech to the Conservative Council in Plymouth last Friday, when he attacked the Euro-sceptics, of whom Major is one). If Mr Hurd were let loose during the Euro-elections, the Tories would be left with hardly a seat in the European Parliament.

Britain's stance is more democratic than that of the leaders of the most economically advanced European countries, who autocratically assume they know better than the people what is good for them. The British are far from alone in their determination to retain their national identity, the threat to which increases whenever the majority acquires greater power to over-ride a minority. Pursuing that course would lead ultimately to a break-up of the European Union. This is why holding the line against encroachment on minority rights was so vital, though the point seems to have been entirely missed by most of the media, which see the affair as a short-term political manoeuvre to mend splits in the Tory party. When a government is at its most honourable, accusations of political trickery are often at their loudest.

The true split is between those, like the Labour and Liberal Democrat leaders, who want a federal political union unquestioningly subservient to Brussels' edicts, however a majority vote for them is obtained, and those who do not. There may be a few Tory followers of Heath and Hurd who agree with Labour and the Lib Dems, but the great majority agree with Mr Major. In this they are in tune with national feeling, which is becoming increasingly aware of the danger to jobs from the socialism of the Brussels bureaucracy. Inherently, all unchecked bureaucracies are of a socialist nature, believing in the myth that the state is superior to private enterprise in providing the conditions in which economies will flourish. This explains why ludicrous burdens, such as mandatory maximum hours of work, minimum pay, shift working and conditions of employment, have been laid upon our EC partners, crippling their international competitiveness.

So far, we hope we have opted out of the socialist Social Chapter and resisted attempts to introduce parts of it under the bogus cover of health directives; but Labour and the Lib Dems wholeheartedly back Brussels. A reduction in our blocking power would make it easier for the majority to impose upon us schemes which would destroy the unprecedented prosperity towards which Britain is heading. There is also danger ahead for Germany and France in a reduced blocking power. For instance, when Poland Hungary, Slovakia and the Czech Republic join the European Union, by about 2000, they will make great demands on the EU's resources. Yet Britain, Germany and France, which provide the bulk of those resources, could be outvoted by the poorer countries through qualified majority voting as it stands.

There is to be a review of the EU's institutions in 1996. This should be the time to consider blocking powers in detail. Altering the percentages now is foolish and sets a bad precedent. A sudden rush for change is precipitated by the intended entry of four new members on January 1, 1995. The Cabinet should not have let itself be blackmailed by Mr Hurd into believing that the Greek proposals had to be agreed by 5pm yesterday in order to give the new entrants time to make internal arrangements. We are still in March, and if they had had to wait a month, they would still have time, given the will, to adjust their own procedures. The present candidates for entry are sensibly saying little, but it is clear that their governments and populations (in Scandinavia in particular) are apprehensive at needlessly losing more sovereignty through the weakening of the blocking vote, and are instinctively on Major's side.

Arrangements to meet self-imposed deadlines are inappropriate in dealing with the European Union's constitution, which should not be altered *ad hoc* on a day-by-day basis. If the obscure compromise accepted by the Cabinet really menas that 23 per cent of the votes can still block until 1996, Mr Major may just be able to sell the deal to the Tories and the public. Our partners in Europe appeared to be moving in the direction of genuine safeguards for minorities, but simultaneously describing it as a move to save Britain's face. That it was not: it was to save the EU from beginning to write its own epitaph. Alas, Mr Hurd has torpedoed this, and has become a liability to the Government and Mr Major, as well as a danger to the true interests of the EU and Britain. I am sure that John Major, who sees the issues clearly and has battled well for Britain, not just for his party, is fully aware of this and of the country's feelings, and that he will act accordingly.

Consenting Lords

WHILE the votes of the qualified majority kept birthday boy John Major fully occupied yesterday, campaigners from the eloquent minority were lying in wait for the Home Secretary, Michael Howard. For the "friends of Edwina" are pushing hard for the House of Lords to go where the Commons feared to tread and reduce the age of homosexual consent to 16.

Stonewall, the more moderate arm of the gay lobby, will gauge support at a meeting in the Lords after Easter. But, amid talk that the "moralists" are pushing for the age of consent to be restored to 21 (and beyond), they are aware that things may not go the way they want. As Lord McIntosh of Haringey, Labour's deputy leader in the Lords, warns: "The danger of it going the other way must not be ignored."

Edwina Currie, though, has faith in their Lordships ignoring such a reactionary line. "Given the legal arguments, I hope they will take the debate one step further in the Lords."

The precedents are reasonably promising, as the Lords tend to be rather sound on equal rights. After all, it was the late Earl of Arran (whose son Tommy is an Environment Minister) who introduced the legislation in the 1960s to decriminalise homosexual acts between consenting adults in private. However, poor Boofy, as the late Earl was known, had less success with his Bill to protect badgers. According to Westminster folklore, a fellow peer consoled him with the words: "Well, there aren't many badgers in the House of Lords."



THE TIMES DIARY

Delicious vowels

ONE of the more intriguing features of the Italian elections has been the impeccable English of Berlusconi's campaign manager, Roberto Lasagna, a former Saatchi & Saatchi director.

"I learnt it in England," says Lasagna, speaking flawlessly from Milan, where he has just been elected a senator. "My mother was English. She was from a place called Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. Her name was Daisy Suckling." She met his father, Stefano, in London.

Lasagna was born in Italy in 1936. After the war, his family returned to England, but in 1966 they went back to Italy, and their successful advertising business was sold to the Saatchis 20 years later.

"Roberto is easily tickled, and has a big heart," says Saatchis' deputy chairman Jeremy Sinclair, who worked with Lasagna until his sudden departure for pastures political in January. "He is capable of wearing an English or Italian suit with equal aplomb."

● *Elaine Steinbeck was among guests at the American embassy on Monday night for the launch of Jay Parini's biography of her late husband, John Steinbeck. At 79, she said, she has absolutely no desire to follow her husband's literary example. "When I tell stories at dinner parties about my travels with John, people always tell me I should write my own book. But I really couldn't write a word — that's probably why our marriage worked so well."*

Aye-aye

RICHARD INGRAMS, the former editor of *Private Eye*, is about to discover the exquisite joy of having the biographical boot applied by the other foot. For having "pretty well finished" his long-overdue life of Malcolm Muggeridge and returned to the editorial chair of *The Oldie*, he is himself about to be the subject of a biography.

The writer charged with the task is Harry Thompson, former producer of the satirical quiz show *Have I Got News For You*, who hopes to have *Richard Ingrams: Lord of the Gnomes* out by August. Publisher Tom Weldon of William Heinemann, insists that Thompson will be gentle with his subject. "It's all in good humour — I think."

Ingrams, however, waits uneasily: "I don't really think you should write biographies of people when they're still alive and quite young. It gives me a rather strange feeling that it must all be over."

Sit. vac.

WHERE Ross Perot led, Silvio Berlusconi has now, rather more successfully, followed. But where is the charismatic figure in this country to capitalise on the electorate's disillusion with the political pros? Where indeed?

For a shortlist of those with the qualities of character and quantities of funds to provide a new *forza* in British politics is just that — distinctly short. Richard Branson (head of Virgin), Anita Roddick (creator of Body Shop), Jonathan Porritt (Friends of the Earth), businessman Sir James Goldsmith, Maurice Saatchi and the former Tory Party treasurer Lord McAlpine are among the few who might pull it off — on a bad polling day.

But while most have flirted with politics at some time, the signs are not encouraging. Indeed, so disillusioned is Goldsmith he is currently standing in France for his *L'Autre Europe* party in the Euro-elections in protest at Britain's civilisation being destroyed "by a bunch of twerps".

Despite what women's campaigner Lesley Abdela describes as a "deep disillusionment with all the main political parties", Michael Dobbs, the novelist who created the highly electable Francis Urquhart, believes a maverick candidate would find it hard to break through in Britain. "Most of these people who come from the wings have an issue — which isn't the case here yet." But that's what they said in Italy three months ago.

● *One possible clue to the identity of a future British maverick comes from Bermuda, where it is noted that Silvio Berlusconi's near neighbour in exclusive Tucker's Town is none other than Ross Perot. And the clue? Just round the corner from Berlusconi's aptly-named house, Blue Horizons, is the modest abode of the unwhipped Tory member for Torbay, Rupert Allason.*

THE LOST LEADER

Major has again risked all for little

The quietness was cruel in the Commons yesterday. While John Major was presenting his apologia for a European policy, he looked vainly behind him for the ritual sounds of support that a Prime Minister should expect on such occasions. Instead there were taut lips and long faces. The one loud cry came from Tony Marlow MP — and he was telling him to resign.

Now, Mr Marlow is no Leo Amery. Nor is Mr Major yet quite a Neville Chamberlain. When Amery declared to Chamberlain in 1940, "In the name of God, go!", he was speaking with all the authority of a former Cabinet minister representing a large swath of the Conservative party. Mr Marlow has never been very much and does not represent very much, but did show boldness that others lacked. After the Amery intervention, Chamberlain went, though not without a short fight. After Mr Marlow's call for his resignation yesterday, John Major is closer than ever to the Downing Street back door.

The issue is not Europe. It is leadership, competence and judgement. If this deal on EC voting was really the best that Mr Major could win (and on present evidence, it concedes virtually nothing to Britain), then he should not have put his personal authority behind the fight for a better one. The Prime Minister failed to stop the destructive leaks of Britain's intention to compromise. Yet even after those leaks, he said he was prepared to delay enlargement if that was necessary to protect Britain's interests. By yesterday, he had retreated.

Prime Ministers are chosen for their soundness of judgment, their ability to negotiate, their political agility and their talent for thinking both tactically and strategically. On all these counts, Mr Major has fallen short. This past fortnight's shenanigans are only the latest of a string going back to September 1992. Each time he has been put back on probation by his party, only to reoffend. There is a limit to the number of chances even the most naturally loyal of MPs is prepared to give him. In May and June, in a series of elections, the Prime Minister's failings are likely to become all too apparent at the polls. Those who want better leadership had better start planning for it now.

The informal campaign has already begun. Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, is poised. He has spent all his life in training and has recently been assiduous in his courtship of the right. In his speeches he has been portraying himself as a man of vigour and radical views. Whatever enthusiasm he may have had in the past for European integration has been less in evidence. He will need to beware of peaking too soon.

In the meantime, the right is preparing its case too. Michael Portillo would be wise to plan for an election with a true ideological content. Others will want to join the fray too. No-one should expect as gentlemanly an affair as last time. Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the other main candidate of the left, has been playing a curious game. His speeches and television performances are listless, and he looks ill at ease with his economic brief. It is unclear whether Mr Clarke is complacent, is deliberately holding back in order not to be penalised as a regicide, or whether he wants his rival to win now so that he can take over once Mr Heseltine has lost the next election. If the Chancellor is considering a contest this year, he would be wise not to underestimate the competition.

This latest drama has developed with unexpected speed. This is supposed to be the time in the political season when the Conservative Party does not want disloyalty, when the toughest right-wing critics have decided to keep silent for fear of being blamed for electoral defeats. If yesterday was a day when Conservative MPs were trying to behave well, who will help the Prime Minister when they want to behave badly?

FORZA BERLUSCONI

The new government must be as innovative as the campaign

The results of the Italian elections are without precedent in modern Europe. The eruption onto the scene, only ten weeks ago, of a non-politician at the head of a non-party transformed the terms of the contest: from the familiarities of right versus left, the political debate abruptly began to pivot around new versus old. The most extraordinary thing about the electoral triumph of Silvio Berlusconi is that so many, in Italy as well as the rest of Europe, believed it to be impossible. It was precisely because his Forza Italia bore no real resemblance to a political party — and because he himself was perceived as different from "the politicians" — that it attracted such enthusiastic support.

Doubts about the sincerity of the left's break with communism and state intervention undoubtedly played a part. But Signor Berlusconi's confident promise to bring about a "new Italian miracle" by rolling back the state made such an impact because to many people he embodies the modernisation of Italian political culture. Forza Italia has seemed to promise the rebirth of a civic order which owes as little as possible to the political fiefdoms and bureaucratic malpractices of the discredited past.

Politicians elsewhere in Western Europe should take note. The Italian earthquake has been exceptionally severe, inflicting damage on every institution of state; but discontent with the political classes, as the pattern of defeats for the mainstream parties in Germany attests, is hardly confined to Italy. Forza Italia's odd partners in the Freedom Alliance have also profited, if to a lesser extent, from this aura of the new. The Northern League of Umberto Bossi is built on revolt; and as for Gianfranco Fini's "post-Fascist" National Alliance, it started its swift gallop from the extreme-right wing to centre-stage only after Signor Fini astutely pronounced fascism out of date.

The risk for Signor Berlusconi, and for Italy, is that the novelty could end with this week's election results. The stage seems set for the horse-trading between coalition members which has, to growing popular disgust, preceded the formation of each of Italy's 52 postwar governments. Savouring the moment of victory, Signor Berlusconi claimed that his Freedom Alliance had already "secured its most important goal ... a future of democracy and liberty" for Italy. But this could as easily be the moment when the goal begins to recede: by far the hardest part of the mission he has set himself will be to forge a stable government from forces already at each other's throats. His main problems will lie not with the National Alliance, but with the disgruntled Northern League, a protest movement which has lost ground to Forza Italia and is threatening to stay aloof from what Signor Bossi terms the "reactionary right".

The outgoing Prime Minister, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, will be a hard act to follow. His government of technocrats has laid solid foundations on which to build a platform of radical reforms to Italy's public finances, tax systems, bureaucracy, and its chaotic and inefficient public and welfare services. Signor Berlusconi's triumph owes much to brilliant packaging, laced with patriotism. He now has to add competence, and clean government. His wisest course would be to remember that the roots of his support lie outside party moulds. His allies need him, and the Freedom Alliance was never more than an electoral pact of convenience.

Without throwing away the enormous asset — and novelty — of an outright parliamentary majority, he could reach outside the confines of the Freedom Alliance to form a government resolutely based on talent. It would accord perfectly with the popular mood if he did so; and it would confirm that his theme of rethinking the state extends also to the way it is in future to be governed.

SECURE IN THE CLASSROOM

Lessons of the Middlesbrough school tragedy

The killing of 12-year-old Nikki Conroy at Hall Garth School in Middlesbrough was a horror which will have alarmed every parent. Unfortunately, the circumstances that led to her death cannot be regarded as unique. Although the 1989 Elton report on school discipline showed that attacks on teachers by pupils are far more common than violent incidents involving intruders, the number of cases involving outsiders does seem to be increasing.

One school in St John's Wood has recently had to call in police to fend off gangs of youths intervening in squabbles between pupils; another in Salford has been forced to drill its pupils on how to behave if car thieves drive into its playground. The most rigorous way of protecting an educational institution is to build a perimeter fence around it and to give pupils and staff identity cards. Measures of this kind have already been taken by Southwark College in south London and may be copied by other further education colleges in inner city areas. Yet most parents, teachers and pupils would not welcome such dispiriting remodelling of ordinary schools which would defeat the sense of community which they work hard to build. It would be regrettable if the nation's 24,000 schools had to be fortified against trespass.

Instead, head teachers should take more basic steps to ensure that the risk of intrusion is minimised; inspectors should check that they do so; and ministers should ensure that the new funding formula takes due account of school security needs. As far as possible, a school should have only one entrance, with a permanently supervised reception area. One-way doors can make exit possible from inside, but prevent entry from outside. The screening of visitors need not be incompatible with fire rules.

In the classroom itself, the installation of personal alarms or discreet panic buttons connected to the local police station would reassure teachers that they can call for help in the event of an emergency. Such systems are much cheaper than the video monitors which some schools have introduced to prevent theft and vandalism. Heads will have to make choices of this kind as they gain more control over budgets. No such measures can offer an absolute guarantee against the determined trespasser. But schools should not feel that basic precautions are beyond their ingenuity or their means.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Churches' plea on racism in elections

From the Presidents of Churches Together in England

Sir, We write as Christian leaders to whom racism and religious hatred are utterly abhorrent.

Respect for the humanity we share with each and every neighbour is the only basis for a peaceful and good society. Any attack on the dignity and human rights of any racial or religious group damages all of us.

We ask all those involved in the forthcoming local government elections to remember the responsibility of every citizen to help build a peaceful society, free from hatred, fear and violence. In particular, we ask political leaders of all parties to ensure that there is no pandering to racism by any of their candidates.

Yours faithfully,
†GEORGE CANTUAR
(Archbishop of Canterbury),
BASIL HUME
(Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster),
JOHN A. NEWTON (Moderator, Free Church Federal Council),
†BASIL of SERGIEVO
(Russian Orthodox Church),
Inter Church House,
35-41 Lower Marsh, SE1.
March 29.

Loss of speech

From Lady Hale

Sir, Mrs Patricia Brims, in her response (March 17) to Ian Robertson's article about my husband's inability to speak after a stroke, says that there are "plenty" of speech therapists in this country — but not enough to provide adequate treatment for dysphasic adults. I find this inconsistent.

In the 18 months since my husband's stroke we have had extensive experience of three forms of treatment by speech therapists with no special understanding of dysphasia, by volunteers and, finally, by two professional specialists in dysphasia.

It was only when John was directly treated by the specialists that his condition was properly diagnosed and a course of treatment devised, under which he is now making such good progress that there is real hope that he will, given time, regain the ability to express his thoughts in writing and speech.

Yours sincerely,
SHEILA HALE,
26 Montpelier Row,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
March 19.

From Professor Patricia J. Lindop, FRCP

Sir, Amaryllis Fleming (letter, March 21) is not the only stroke victim to do well, but sadly the great majority of victims do not have the double luck she had in her misfortune: one, that her lesion was of a nature to lend itself to amelioration under expert care; and two, that she could afford private treatment. It is doubtful whether the results would have been the same under the NHS at the present time.

When I had a stroke 13 years ago, with impairment even more severe than that described by Miss Fleming, I received all the needed therapy for a number of years as an NHS patient.

I found conditions much different after a second episode a few months ago. In order to continue with physiotherapy without an inordinate delay one has to call on a private therapist, because there is not enough money for it in the NHS. The same goes for other vital aids, such as an electric wheelchair. Those who cannot afford to pay often suffer misery.

The deterioration of the National Health Service has to be experienced to be believed.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. LINDOP,
58 Wildwood Road, NW11.
March 22.

BBC in Albania

From Miss Patricia Rawlings, MEP for Essex South West (European People's Party Group (Conservative))

Sir, Is it not the ideal moment, while the President of Albania, Dr Sali Berisha, is visiting London, to re-establish Albania's link with the BBC World Service, recently interrupted?

Because of the new conditions then prevailing in Albania, the BBC was able to start broadcasts in February 1993, thus supporting the growth of an informed democracy in an area on the edge of the Balkan conflict.

In the course of just one year, the BBC's Albanian language broadcasts attracted a huge audience: 47 per cent of the adult population were listening regularly. The Albanian authorities had been willing to let the BBC install a VHF transmitter in Tirana and lease it a medium-wave transmitter which carried programmes to the three million ethnic Albanians living outside Albania, mostly in the troubled Serbian province of Kosovo.

It's a pity that the Albanian authorities have now cancelled the medium-wave agreement and there is also some question mark over the FM transmitter. My hope is that during President Berisha's visit these difficulties can be resolved.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA RAWLINGS,
European Parliament,
97-113 rue Belliard, Brussels.
March 29.

Law students' cash and career snags

From Miss Sarah Boardley

Sir, In your leader, "Learning the law" (March 21), you refer the legal profession to their medical counterparts, who have a longer and broader training before specialisation.

If only we could be more like them! Medical students are usually awarded full local education authority grants throughout their four or five-year training. Most law students doing legal practice courses or going to the Bar face going into thousands of pounds of debt, whilst our LEAs fail to recognise the mandatory nature of our training. I would like nothing more than the two professions to be compared on this matter more often.

Yours sincerely,
SARAH BOARDLEY
(Student, Nottingham Trent Law School),
4 Allenfield Court, Park Road,
Lenton, Nottingham.

From Mr Paul Boateng, MP for Brent South (Labour)

Sir, Labour welcomes the recommendation that aspiring solicitors and barristers should, at least initially, pursue a common vocational course. This reform would go some way to securing a better deal for the consumers of legal services.

Whilst urging the Lord Chancellor to adopt the recommendation, however, we also insist that the Government provide mandatory grants for all those seeking to qualify as lawyers. At present only discretionary grants are available and hard-pressed LEAs are rarely able to fund students on either of the vocational law courses. A derisory 9 per cent of those currently on the legal practice course are in receipt of financial help from their LEA. It is illogical and divisive that access to the legal profession should be denied to those unable to obtain alternative funding. Automatic assistance is available to trainee architects and vets.

Both branches of the legal profession are increasingly becoming preserves of the privileged. A system of mandatory grants would ensure genuine equality of opportunity amongst aspiring lawyers and thus help the profession that represents people to become more representative of the people.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL BOATENG (Labour spokesperson on legal affairs),
House of Commons.

From Mr Nicholas Wayne

Sir, The proposals of the Lord Chancellor's advisory committee contain much to be commended: law students are presently forced to make premature career decisions.

Most of the current intake of Bar students will be unable to find permanent employment in chambers; they will have a qualification of little practical value outside of the Bar and may well become lost to the legal profession. Those who train to be solicitors will find it difficult to change the direction of their career and become specialist advocates.

There is a real danger that the cost of studying at the Bar, coupled with the gloomy future predicted for the junior Bar, will deter future entrants from non-traditional backgrounds. Combined training for barristers and solicitors will give the young lawyer a flexible qualification, allowing him or her to respond to changes in the profession.

Yours etc,
NICHOLAS WAYNE
(President), Middle Temple Students' Association,
Middle Temple, EC4.
March 21.

From Mr Damian J. B. Honey

Sir, As a recent law graduate I believe that the vast majority of law graduates wanting to become lawyers already know that they do not want to become barristers. I also believe that this is simply due to their fear of the prospect of advocacy.

Rightly so. At most law schools undergraduates can partake of mooting and legal discussion, both informally in in-house competitions and tutorials, and in open competitions such as the *Observer* moots. Most do not participate due to this fear; those that do so have the fear confirmed: the minority continue and apply to the Inns of Court School of Law.

This is why I believe that the system works well and that the proposals for joint training are inappropriate. Each side of the profession has its own particular skills that must be taught in depth at their own particular institutions. Joint training will only lead to a decline in standards.

Yours sincerely,
DAMIAN J. HONEY,
Flat 46, The Lawns,
Blackheath, SE3.
March 21.

Drawbacks of new investment body

From Sir Peter Blaker

Sir, On March 30 the Opposition will introduce in the House of Commons a motion on "pension transfers and the need for direct regulation of the private pensions sector".

I have no doubt that this will give rise to a wide debate on the recent proposals of the Personal Investments Authority (PIA). I hope the Government will not use this occasion to announce that it proposes to give approval to the PIA.

It is too early to be sure what is the reaction of the relevant branches of the financial services industry to the PIA's 260 pages of proposals, although an opinion poll of independent financial advisers (IFAs) showed an overwhelming majority against joining the PIA.

The PIA proposals contain serious defects. If both the product providers (life assurance companies, building societies and *bancassurance* companies) and the IFAs are to become members of the same regulatory organisation, it is essential that the consumer should be able easily to distinguish between the two categories. From each of the former he will get advice only on the products of one company: from the IFAs advice about the comparative merits of the products of different companies.

The PIA rulebook gives the consumer no guidance as to how to make this distinction. Their proposals also discriminate against the IFAs by imposing on them burdens from which the product providers are exempt — for example, in the fields of training, standards of competence and professional indemnity insurance.

Though the PIA is intended to replace two bodies (Lautro and Fimbra), IFAs expect their regulatory costs to rise by 18 per cent in the first year.

If these proposals are approved the number of IFAs, which has already diminished rapidly in recent years under the Financial Services Act, will continue to fall. Thus the downward pressure which the independent sector has been able to exert on the cost of products will be weaker. The consumer will suffer.

Yours sincerely,
PETER BLAKER,
Ellis Blaker Financial Advisers,
110 Old Brompton Road,
South Kensington, SW7.
March 28.

Band by band

From Mr Jack Straw, MP for Blackburn (Labour)

Sir, This time last year both Conservative Central Office, in a confidential briefing, and the Department of the Environment were using average council tax bills per household as a key measure.

It was only when they discovered that on this measure Labour councils were cheaper (£14 cheaper this year, £40 next) that they began to dispute its statistical validity.

Instead, Conservatives now claim that council tax bands give a fairer basis for comparison. This is not the case.

There are typically fewer B and C bills in Conservative areas where there is a preponderance of homes in the higher valuation bands E to H. In Labour areas the converse is the case.

The Conservative band C figures do not represent what most people will actually pay. For example, in Liverpool 82 per cent of homes are in bands A and B and only 8 per cent are in bands D to H, which means that eight out of ten households will pay *less* than the band C figure for Liverpool.

In Conservative Westminster, by contrast, 84 per cent of properties are in the higher-value bands D to H, which means that there eight out of ten will pay *more* than the band C rate. Across the whole of Britain only one in five households live in band C properties.

Band-by-band comparisons are an indicator of an area's differing social mix, not of relative spending. It's what average families have to pay which concerns people most. With Labour, they will pay £40 less next year.

Yours faithfully,
JACK STRAW (Labour environment spokesperson),
House of Commons.

Local reform, if asked

From Mr David Rendel, MP for Newbury (Liberal Democrat)

Sir, Sir John Banham (letter, March 22) has shown his agreement with your editorial ("If it ain't broke", March 16), which suggests that the local government review should continue only in areas where there is clear local support for change.

This position is supported by the Liberal Democrats. Indeed, at our Cardiff conference last week, we passed a motion reaffirming this position, and called on the Government to "accept and to proceed with only those reforms that have demonstrable and overwhelming support in the communities concerned".

The Liberal Democrats have held this view since our original response to the consultation paper of 1991, in which we stressed that the role of the local government commission should be "one of reporting and putting into practice local wishes and not one of determining what is best for local people".

This is clearly the commonsense position, the democratic position, and the position which, if adopted by the Government, would allow it to retain backbench support without offending areas where there is still a call for reform.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID RENDEL
(Liberal Democrat spokesman for local government),
House of Commons.
March 23.

Boat Race rivalry

From Mr R. W. Mott

Sir, So Simon Barnes (report, March 26) thinks that it was radio that made the Boat Race a national event. My mother told me how all the children in Winchmore Hill, north London, in the 1880s supported one of the two crews: how mothers and sisters provided them with bits of dark and light blue ribbon: how they defied each other with cries of "Dirty old Oxford" or "Washed-out Cambridge"; and how they had races with paper boats which were put in the brook upstream from the bridge.

Sometimes the result of the real race reached the village that evening, but false rumours were spread, particularly by older brothers.

My mother never believed that Oxford had lost until somebody at church the next morning produced a newspaper.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. MOTT,
136 Lakenheath, Southgate, N14.
March 26.

From Mr P. R. Millest

Sir, The Boat Race is no longer the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race.

It was intended as a competition between undergraduate members of the two universities. Now the majority of the crews are foreigners, pseudo-postgraduates who come here mainly to row, of advanced ages (such as 29), ex-Olympic oarsmen, etc.

I don't care if the Cambridge performance was spectacular: so it ought to have been.

I make a plea for the alteration and enforcement of the rules so that only bona fide undergraduates will be able to take part.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,
P. R. MILLEST
(Ex-Eights oarsman),
9 East Street, Sydling St Nicholas,
Dorchester, Dorset.
March 28.

Letters for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. We regret that we cannot accept letters by telephone but they may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046.

Lesson from Italy

From Mr P. Gordon

Sir, If anyone doubts the power of the media, Silvio Berlusconi is the reality.

Yours faithfully,
P. GORDON,
62A Christchurch Road,
Bournemouth, Dorset.
March 29.

Healthy eating

From Professor Emeritus P. B. Fellgett, FRS

Sir, Dr Le Fanu (Body and Mind, March 17) suggests that the received wisdom on diet and health is oversimplified and misleading. Experience of the war years, and up to the end of food rationing in 1954, reinforces this view.

Nutritionists say the low-fat, low-sugar diet of those years was good for us, and that never before or since has the nation been so healthily fed. I can only suppose that they were not there at the time living on civilian rations, or they have short memories.

We did not starve but we felt continually hungry, especially for protein, and my memory is of how grey, tired and drawn people were.

It is obviously right to study statistical correlations between diet and major diseases, but wrong to regard such statistics as the whole truth. A diet that provides such a poor quality of life as is my memory of wartime rations cannot properly be regarded as healthy.

Yours faithfully,
PETER FELLGETT,
Little Brighter, St Kew Highway,
Bodmin, Cornwall.
March 19.

Tusks among the vines

From Mr Joseph Pestell

Sir, The owners of the Tenterden vineyard invaded by boar [report, March 17; letters, March 21, 29] have seen nothing yet. From recent local experience, we have discovered that wild boar are very partial to bunches of ripe grapes and, very discerning animals, favour particularly the low-yield, high-quality varieties.

This problem has only arisen in the last few years and the *viticulteurs* attributed it to the release into the wild of boar that had been raised in captivity to replace a declining stock of the genuine article. But this would presumably not have been the case in Luther's time (letter, March 21).

In our own vineyard, we also have several fruit trees which have been attacked by the wild boar. They are quite capable of getting the fruit which is out of their reach, charging at the tree trunks to shake the apricots and peaches from the branches.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH PESTELL,
1 Grand'Rue, 11350 Paziols,
Aude, France.
March 23.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 29: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

Captain Krishnabahadur Gurung, The Queen's Own Gurkha Transport Regiment, and Captain Bishnukumar Rai, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, (The Queen's Gurkha Orderly Officers) were received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested them with the Insignia of Members of the Royal Victorian Order.

The President of the Republic of Albania visited Her Majesty.

The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, attended Receptions at St James's Palace for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Major Charles Richards was in attendance.

His Royal Highness this afternoon attended the Standing Committee of the Air Force Board Luncheon at the Royal Air Force Club, 128 Piccadilly, London W1.

Sir Brian McGrath was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening gave a Dinner for Founder Charter Members at Buckingham Palace.

Lady Abel Smith has succeeded Lady Dugdale as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

March 29: The Duke of York this evening presented the Young Electronic Designer Awards at the Science Museum, London SW7.

Captain Rupert Maitland-Titterton was in attendance.

March 29: The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, this afternoon attended the Industry Committee City Luncheon at Kleinwort, Benson Limited, 20 Fenchurch Street, London EC3.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, International Health Exchange, later attended the Annual General Meeting at the Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1.

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 29: The Prince of Wales, Founder and President, The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, this morning visited Ripon and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for North Yorkshire (Sir Marcus Worsley, Bt).

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited Slingsby Aviation Limited, Kirkbymoorside.

Mr Matthew Butler was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 29: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, this afternoon visited the Cleveland and Durham Child Protection Team at the Amos Hinton Family Centre in Park Road South, Middlesbrough.

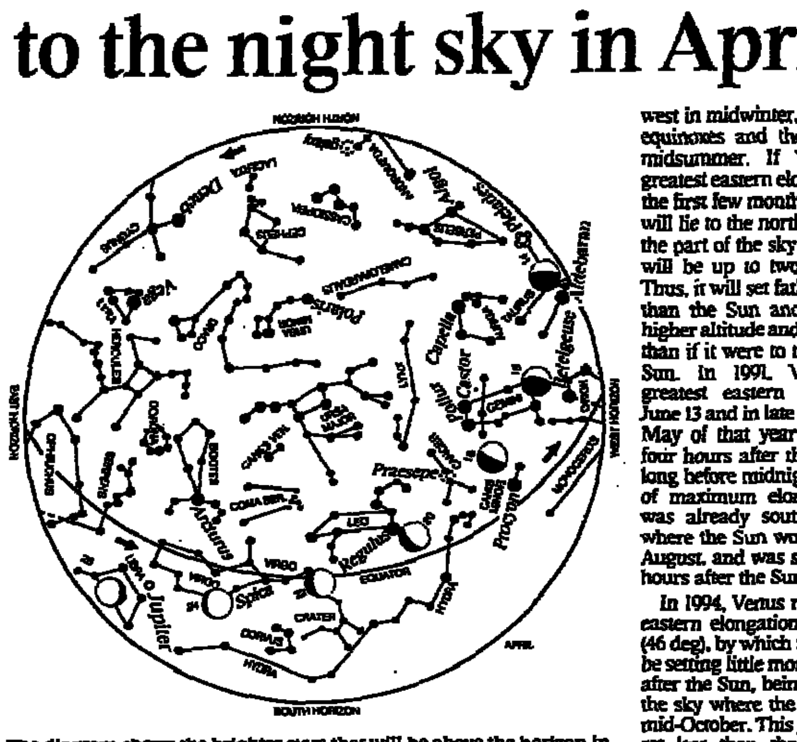
Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Cleveland (The Lord Gisborough). Mrs Charles Vyvyan was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
March 29: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this afternoon arrived at RAF Northolt from Germany.

The Duchess of Kent this afternoon opened the London Fire Brigade's new Training Centre, Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1. Mrs Colin Marsh was in attendance.

Guide to the night sky in April

By Michael J Hendrie
Astronomy Correspondent



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

MERCURY is a morning star throughout the month, reaching superior conjunction on the 30th. It remains too close to the Sun for observation.

Venus sets more than two hours after sunset by the 30th, when it is above the northwestern horizon until 22h. Moving through Aries into Taurus, the -3.9 magnitude planet will be a conspicuous object, below the Pleiades later in the month. The waxing crescent Moon passes very close by on the 12th. Mars is in Pisces, but rises less than an hour before the Sun by the 30th.

Jupiter retrogrades through Libra, reaching opposition on the 30th, when the -2.5 magnitude planet rises about 21h. The Moon is nearby on the 25th/26th.

Saturn is in Aquarius, rising by 03h by the 30th, though at +1 magnitude it is not a very conspicuous object, low in the eastern sky before dawn. Moon near by on the 7th/8th.

Uranus is 5.8 magnitude and is not easily seen without optical aid, and as it appears starlike at moderate magnifications it is not easy to identify without a detailed chart showing fainter stars. Moon near by on the 4th.

Neptune is 8.00 magnitude near Uranus and the same considerations apply to identifying it as to Uranus.

The Moon: last quarter: 3d 03h; new Moon: 11d 00h; first quarter: 19d 03h; full Moon: 25d 20h.

Sunset on the 1st is at 18h 35m and on the 30th at 19h 25m, while sunrise is at 05h 35m and 04h 30m on the same dates. Astronomical twilight ends at 20h 30m and 21h 55m early and late in the month and begins again at 03h 40m and 02h 00m.

The Lyrid meteors reach maximum activity of perhaps 10 per hour on the 22nd, but the Moon, near to full, will effectively hide all but the brightest meteors. Venus will be an evening star this year from January until late October but for much of that time it will be in a rather bright twilight sky. Except for a few weeks around the time of inferior conjunction, when Venus is close to us as it passes between the Earth and the Sun, it lies quite close to the ecliptic, the annual path of the Sun around the sky.

When it is an evening object it is east of the Sun, so that it occupies the part of the sky where the Sun will be a few weeks later. The maximum angular distance that Venus can be from the Sun is 47 degrees and as the orbit of Venus is almost circular, this varies by only a degree or so from apparition to apparition.

The Sun moves eastwards by one degree each day so that Venus can occupy the part of the sky where the Sun will be up to about seven weeks later. When Venus is a morning star, it occupies part of the sky where the Sun has been up to seven weeks earlier. This helps to explain why some apparitions of Venus are more favourable than others (the situation with Mercury is similar, but complicated by the planet's more inclined and elliptical orbit).

The Sun sets toward the southwest in midwinter, the west at the equinoxes and the northwest in midsummer. If Venus reaches greatest eastern elongation during the first few months of the year, it will lie to the north of the Sun, in the part of the sky where the Sun will be up to two months later. Thus, it will set father to the north than the Sun and be seen at a higher altitude and in a darker sky than if it were to the south of the Sun. In 1991, Venus was at greatest eastern elongation on June 13 and in late April and early May of that year it was setting four hours after the Sun and not long before midnight. By the date of maximum elongation, Venus was already south of the Sun, where the Sun would be early in August, and was setting only two hours after the Sun.

In 1994, Venus reaches greatest eastern elongation on August 24 (46 deg), by which time Venus will be setting little more than an hour after the Sun, being in the part of the sky where the Sun will be in mid-October. This year Venus will set less than three hours after sunset, at its best in May and second half of April. Early May it will set as astronomical twilight ends. This will be the best period of visibility in the evening sky in 1994, though it should still be seen in twilight into the autumn.

As seen from the Earth, Venus takes 19 months before it comes back to the same point in its cycle, e.g. from superior conjunction to the next superior conjunction or greatest eastern elongation to greatest eastern elongation. In 19 months there will be an evening apparition and a morning apparition. After this year's greatest eastern elongation, the next will occur on 1996 April 1 and Venus should be higher and in a darker sky than in 1994.

But later this year, over Christmas and the New Year, Venus will rise nearly four hours before the Sun to become a brilliant morning star again, with greatest western elongation on January 13, 1995.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.R.J. Brasier and Ms G.M.P. Jarvis
The engagement is announced between Nicholas Roderick John, elder son of Mr J. Brasier, of Norwich, Norfolk, and of Mrs J.M. Brasier, of Westonzoyland, Somerset, and Gwynne Myfanwy Price, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel J.G. and Mrs O.M. Jarvis, of Chard, Somerset.

Mr N.C.I. Burge and Miss A.J. Spence
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Ian Burge, of Llanhennock, Monmouthshire, and Arabella, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Spence, of Penshurst, Kent.

Mr S.M. George and Miss C.A. Luker
The engagement is announced between Stephen Mark, elder son of Dr and Mrs Michael George, of Great Bentley, Essex, and Caroline Anne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Luker, of Wookey, Somerset.

Mr J.D. Hamm and Miss C. Southgate-Sayers
The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Dr and Mrs R.E.D. Hamm, of Onchan, Isle of Man, and Celina, younger daughter of Mr J. Southgate-Sayers, of St Peter Port, Guernsey, and Mrs S. Southgate-Sayers, of London, SW6.

The Hon R.S.F. Lytton Cobbold and Miss F.M. Lancaster
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Lord and Lady Cobbold, of Knebworth House, Hertfordshire, and Frankie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jeremy Lancaster, of Broadwell, Gloucestershire.

Mr M.H.M. Allard and Miss S.C. Bramall
The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr and Mrs P.M. Allard, of Purley, Surrey, and Suzannah, daughter of Mr and Mrs T.G. Bramall, of Leathley, North Yorkshire.

Mr C.R. Seymour and Miss H.M.C. Hohler
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Leo Seymour, and Henrietta, daughter of Mr and Mrs Gerald Hohler.

Marriages

Mr R. Bardwell and Miss L. Godman
The marriage took place on March 26, 1994, at the Church of Saint John the Baptist, Great Rissington, Gloucestershire, between Mr Richard Bardwell and Miss Lucy Godman. The Rev Susan Moth officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, Mr Desmond Godman, was attended by Eleanor Bardwell, Laura Godman, Elizabeth Godman, Amelia Griffiths, Thomas Bardwell, Frederick Godman, Hugo Griffiths and Thomas Godman. Mr Tim Barker was best man. A reception was held at Northmoor House and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr D.R. Miller and Dr C.M. Theodore
The marriage took place on Thursday, March 24, in London between Mr David Miller, son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Miller, and Dr Cecelia Theodore, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Adrian Theodore.

Luncheon

Rotary Club of London
The Duke of Edinburgh, Honorary Rotarian, was the speaker at a luncheon held by the London Rotary Club on Monday at the London Marriott Hotel. Mr Michael Fenton presided and Mr Neville Shulman also spoke. Sir Sigmund Sternberg introduced The German Ambassador to membership of the Club.

Thanksgiving service

Aileen Viscountess Slim
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Aileen Viscountess Slim will be held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital Chelsea at 11.00 today.

Dinners

Speaker
The Speaker held a dinner in Speaker's House yesterday evening in honour of Mr Gilbert Parent, Speaker of the Canadian House of Commons, and Mrs Parent. The Acting High Commissioner for Canada and Mrs April attended.

The other guests included:
Mr Peter Atkinson, MP, and Mrs Atkinson, Mr Roy Beggs, MP, and Mrs Beggs, Mr Brian Donohoe, MP, and Mrs Donohoe, Mr George Foulkes, MP, and Mrs Foulkes, Mr John Gunnell, MP, and Mrs Gunnell, Mr David Marshall, MP and Mrs Marshall, Mr Michael Morris, MP, and Dr Ann Morris, Mr James Roe and Mrs Marion Roe, MP, Mr Colin Shepherd, MP, Miss Fiona McAdam, Mr and Mrs Robert Alston, Sir Clifford and Lady Boulton, the Rev Jeremy and Mrs Caddick, Mr Arthur Donahoe, QC, and Mrs Donahoe, Mr Robert Marleau and Mr and Mrs Nicolas Bevan.

Arbitrators' Company
The Lord Chief Justice was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Arbitrators' Company held last night at the Mansion House. Sir Ian Percival, QC, Master, presided. During the evening the High Commissioner for India was admitted as the company's first honorary Freeman, and Mr Sheriff Jeremy Gotch accepted a cheque on behalf of the Lord Mayor's Appeal for St Paul's Cathedral. Mr Francis Goodall, Senior Warden, also spoke.

Admission ceremony

Royal College of Physicians of London
A ceremony for the admission of new members was held at the Royal College of Physicians of London on March 29, 1994. Among the new members admitted were Professor Mark Casewell, Dr Heather Nunnerley, Dr Martin Schwartz and Dr Ulrich Sigwart under special by-law. One honorary member, Lady Lovell-Davis, was also admitted.

University news

University of Southampton
The March 1994 *Hartley News*, the Alumni magazine of the University of Southampton, has just been published and distributed. If you are a former student and have not received a copy, please contact John Harvey-Samuel, the Alumni Officer, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1BJ (0703 592747) to arrange dispatch of your copy.

School news

Uppingham School
The Right Rev The Lord Bishop of Peterborough, William Westwood, has been appointed Chairman of the Trustees of Uppingham School as of March 26, 1994.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Chancellor of Cambridge University and Patron of the Cambridge Foundation, will attend a reception for the foundation in the Royal Mews at 6.30.

The Prince of Wales, as Patron of the Civic Trust will visit the Loftus project at 25 High Street, Loftus, Cleveland, at 10.30; will visit Teesside Power, Grangetown at 11.40; as President of Business in the Community, will visit the Botanic Centre, Acklam, Middlesbrough, at 12.55; as President of The Prince's Youth Business Trust, will visit the Craft Centre, Giles Street, at 2.00; as President of The Prince's Trust, will attend a meeeting of local business leaders at Teesside University at 2.30. Later, he will attend a Status Quo concert at the Albert Hall at 8.00.

The Princess Royal, as Chief Commandant for Women in the Royal Navy, will visit students and staff at the Royal Naval Engineering College, Manadon, Plymouth, at 10.00; and will visit *HMS Montrose* at HM Naval Base, Devonport, at 2.45.

Princess Margaret, as Colonel-in-Chief of QARANC, will visit the Duchess of Kent's Military Hospital, Catterick Garrison, at noon.

Birthdays today

Lord Armstrong of Ilminster, 67; Mr Warren Beatty, actor, 57; Lord Browne-Wilkinson, 64; Mr Eric Clapton, guitarist, 49; Mr J.F. Coates, naval architect, 72; Miss Sue Cook, broadcaster, 45; Mr George Esson, chief constable, Dumfries and Galloway, 52; Professor Sir Ernst Gombrich, OM, former director, Warburg Institute, 85; Mr John Gosden, racehorse trainer, 63; Sir John Gray, marine biologist, 76; Mr Rolf Harris, entertainer, 64; Mr J.S. Jennings, chairman, Shell Transport and Trading Company, 57; Professor Ron Johnston, vice-chancellor, Essex University, 53; Mr Nigel Jones, MP, 46; Professor M.A. King, economist, 46; Sir Ian MacLaurin, chairman, Tesco, 57; Lord Rayner, 68; Mr Tom Sharpe, novelist, 66; the Rev David Staple, General Secretary of the Free Church Federal Council, 64; the Countess of Sutherland, 73; Lord Tanlaw, 60; General Sir Richard Trant, 66; Sir John Wells, former MP, 69; Professor A.J. Zuckerman, dean, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, 62.

St Antony's College, Oxford
Election to governing body fellowship: Dr Steve Yui-Sang Tsang as Cha Fellow.

Maundy Thursday services

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 7.15 MP; 7.30 HC; 10.30 Euch, The Bishop; 1.10 HC; 5.30 EP; 7.30 Choral Euch, The Provost.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 11 Euch, Blessing of Oils and Reaffirmation of ordination vows, The Bishop of Dover; 3.30 The Thursday Candle; 5.30 E; 7.30 Sung Euch and Stripping of the Altar, Canterbury Mass (Moore), Seniores populi (Victoria), O vos omnes (Casals).

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 5.30 E; 7.30 Sung Euch, Le banquet celeste (Messiaen), O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Ubi caritas (Duruflé), Ave verum (Byrd).

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.15 MP; 7.45 HC; 11.30 Bishop's Euch for renewal of Ordination Vows & Blessing of the oils; 1.10 Organ Recital (Roger Fisher); 5.15 Choral E, Responses (Plainsong); 7.30 Maundy Thursday Euch.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 10.30 Euch, The Bishop of Warwick; 12.40 Midday Prayer; 5 EP; 7.30 The Maundy Euch, A new commandment (Wright), Christus factus est (Bruckner), Wash me thoroughly (Wesley), Jesu grant me this (Gibbons/Bairstow), Canon Gerald Hughes.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 7.30 HC; 9 MP; 11 HC; 12.30 Prayers; 5.15 EP; 7.30 HC, Mass in five voices (Byrd), Ubi caritas et amor (Duruflé), O sacrumconvivium (Tallis), Canon Coppin.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 HC; 10.50Litany; 11 HC; 6.15 EP; 7.30 Sung Euch, Setting (White in E flat), Jesu, Word of God Incarnate (Elgar).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 11 Sung Euch and Blessing of oils, The Bishop; 5.15 E, Short Service (Weelkes), Break in grief (Bach); 7.30 Sung Euch & Stripping of the altar, Missa "in simplicitate" (Langlais), The Subdean.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 MP; 8 HC; 10.30 Bishop's Euch; 1.10 HC; 5.30 E; 7.30 Euch, Mass for five voices, Ave verum (Byrd).

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch; 11 Blessing of the Oils, Missa de angelis (Plainsong), Tantum ergo (Duruflé), Ave verum (Byrd), The Bishop of Southwark; 5.30 EP; 6.30 Choral Euch, Missa O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Ave verum (Philips); 7.30-10, Vigil.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 11 Royal Maundy Service; 5 EP; 7 Solemn Sung Euch, Missa Aeterna Christi (Palestrina); 8 Watch of prayer until midnight.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 7.30 M; 8 HC; 4.30 E; 5 Sung Euch, Missa brevis (Walton), A new commandment (Leddington Wright), Ubi caritas (Duruflé), Tantum ergo (Duruflé), Miserere mei (Allegri).

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8, 12.30 M; 6 Mass of the Lord's Supper, Mass for Five Voices (Byrd), Ubi caritas (Duruflé), O sacrum convivium (Tallis) followed by Watch at the Altar of Repose, The Cardinal.

YORK MINSTER: 7.30 M; 7.50, 11.30 HC; 5 E, Short Service (Weelkes), Tristis est anima mea (Lassus); 7.30 Sung Euch, Mass for three voices (Byrd).

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 11 Choral Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Miserere (Allegri); 7.30 Choral Euch, Mass of the Quiet Hour (Oldroyd).

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 7.30 M; 8, 12.30 HC; 10.30 HC with blessing of oils, The Bishop; 4 E; 5 HC, Missa in honorem Sancti Dominici (Rubbra); O sacrum convivium (Messiaen), Ubi caritas et amor (Duruflé); 6.15-7.30 Watch.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, Dundee: 7 Choral Euch, Phillips in C, Is it nothing to you (Ousley).

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 9 MP; 6.30 HM, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Christus factus est (Bruckner), The vicar.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 6, Missa brevis (Palestrina), Justorum animae (Byrd), Lord to thee I make my moan (Weelkes).

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 1.10, Rev Stanley Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 6 Mass, Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose. Stripping of the Altars. Watching before the Blessed Sacrament.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 6.30 Mass of the Lord's Supper, Mandatum & Procession, Theresa Mass (Haydn), O Domine Jesu Christe (Guerrero).

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 7 HC.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 7.30 HC, The Lamentations (Tallis), The Camden Chamber Choir.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 7.30 Choral Euch.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 6 Mass of the Lord's Supper, Mass for three voices (Byrd).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 12.10 HC.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 6.30 Euch and Vigil, Hear my prayer (Purcell), Litany of Penitance (Plainsong), Crucifixus (Lotti), Lamentations of Jeremiah (Bairstow).

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 6.30 HM, Missa Sancti Dominici (Rubbra), Fr Bill Scott.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 6.30 Gloria in excelsis (Tomkins), Christus factus est (Bruckner), Ubu Caritas (Duruflé), Pange lingua (Palestrina), Rev John Gilling. Friday: 12 Preaching of the Cross, Rev John Gilling; 2 Liturgy, Passion according to St John (Byrd), Crucifixus (Lotti).

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Maimonides, philosopher and physician, Cordoba, Spain, 1135; Sir Henry Wotton, poet and diplomat, Boughton Malherbe, Kent, 1568; Jethro Tull, agricultural writer, Basildon, Berkshire, baptised this day, 1674; Francesco de Goya, painter, Fuendetodos, Spain, 1746; Charles Booth, shipowner and sociologist, Liverpool, 1840; Paul Verlaine, poet, Metz, France, 1844; Don Carlos, pretender to the Spanish throne, Ljubljana, 1848; Vincent van Gogh, painter, Zundert, The Netherlands, 1853; Sean O'Casey, dramatist, Dublin, 1880; Melanie Klein, psychoanalyst, Austria, 1882.

DEATHS: Sébastien Le Prestre de Vauban, military engineer, Paris, 1707; William Hunter, obstetrician and medical writer, London, 1783; George (Beau) Brummell, dandy, Caen, France, 1840; Rudolph Steiner, scientist and founder of anthroposophy, Dornach, Switzerland, 1925; Leonard Raven-Hill, artist and cartoonist, Ryde, Isle of Wight, 1942; Léon Blum, Premier of France 1936-37, Jouy-en-Josas, 1950; James Cagney, actor, New York State, 1986.

Ether was used as an anaesthetic for the first time by Dr Crawford Long in Jefferson, Georgia, 1842.

Airey Neave, MP, was killed by a terrorist bomb in the House of Commons car park, 1979.

John Hinkley III shot and wounded President Ronald Reagan, Washington, 1981.

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000
FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

If you give of your own food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the wretched, then light will rise for you out of darkness and dusk will be for you like noonday.
Isaiah 58:10 (REB)

BIRTHS

ALDRICH - On 27th March, to Emily (née Hall) and Rupert, a daughter, Sophie Grace.

BAILLIEU - On 27th March 1994 in Hong Kong, to Lucy (née Black) and Philip, a daughter, Francesca Caroline, a sister for Sacha.

BALCOMBE - On 23rd March 1994, to Sally (née Spence) and David, a son, Alexander John.

CARTER - On March 26th, to Carol (née Orger) and Keith, a son, Robert William, a brother for Sarah.

CRITCHLEY - On 26th March 1994, to Bruce and Elisabeth (née Storey), a son, Douglas Bruce, a brother to Fergus and Lucilla.

DAVISON - On 23rd March, to Vanessa (née Lines) and Richard, a daughter, Sarah Constance Louisa, a sister for Edward and Harriet.

ELTON - On March 24th at The Portland Hospital, to Sarah (née Anthony) and Graham, a daughter (Harriet Lucy).

ETHERTON - On 25th March, to Suzanne (née Miskin) and Mark, a daughter.

FOOKS - On March 24th, to Sarah and Tim, a son, William John, a brother for Peggy.

FRENCH - On March 26th at The Portland Hospital, to Judith (Wickens) and Peter, a daughter, Sophie, a sister for James.

KEMPNER - On 26th March 1994, to Rosalind (née Alexander) and Nigel, a daughter, Natasha Berenice.

KNIGHT - On 17th March 1994, to Simon and Catriona (née Marchant), a son, Matthew Alexander.

LOWE - On 28th March, to Frank and Dawn (née Dunlap), a son.

MACFARLAND - On 16th March, to Clare (Whistler) and Duncan, a son Finisterre (Finn), a brother for Cairn.

MARSHALL - On 26th March, to Wendy (née Cruse) and Richard, a son, Charles Joshua, a brother for Peter and Matthew.

MEIKLE - On 27th March, to Bruce and Philippa (née Main), a son, Craig Andrew, a brother for Douglas.

RABIU - On 13th March at The Portland Hospital Hanney and Samad would like to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter, Hadi; 2.03 kgs.

RAMOS - On March 17th 1994 to Clare (née Shukman) and Ben, a beautiful daughter, Isabel Harriet.

RAND - On 13th March 1994, to Jeannette and John, a daughter, Vanessa.

TIBBS - On February 28th 1994, to Asha (née Senapati) and Christopher, a daughter, Eleonora Anne Senapati, a sister for Geoffrey and Frederick.

DEATHS

AINSWORTH - On 27th March, peacefully in Folkestone, in her 86th year, Posie, much loved mother of Andrew and Charles and widow of the late Norman J. Ainsworth, MC. Funeral at 3pm Wednesday 6th April at Church of St Gregory and St Martin, Wye, followed by cremation at Charing Crematorium. Flowers to Chittenden's Funeral Services, 1 Ingoldsby Road, Folkestone.

BANERJI - Sankardas of Calcutta and Plassey House, West Bengal, India. On March 23rd suddenly at his home in Calcutta, the Rt. Hon. Sankardas Banerji, aged 91 years. Called to the Bar (Lincoln's Inn) 1929. Leading Counsel, Calcutta High Court. Speaker, Finance Minister, Advocate General and former Member of the Legislative Assembly, West Bengal. Countryman, sportsman and philanthropist. Husband of the late Ila, née Chakravarti, and father of Kalidas, Shyamadas (Bobby), Shivadas (Toby) and Aloka Dam. Much missed by his children and nine grandchildren in London, Washington and Calcutta. Cremation has already taken place. Sradh ceremony will be performed on April 2nd in Calcutta.

BEYNON - On March 27th in Chichester, Kenneth Maynard, husband of the late Margaret. He will be remembered with great affection by his family and friends. All enquiries to Edward White and Son, tel: (0243) 782136.

BRASHIER - On Monday March 28th 1994, after a short illness, Eleanor Rosemary (née Pim), beloved wife of Michael, mother of Sarah and Julia, grandmother of James and Louisa. Funeral Service at Guildford Crematorium on Thursday March 31st at 1.30pm. Donations for V.A.S.D., Leatherhead or flowers may be sent c/o Robert Ayling Funeral Services, 28 South Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6NY, (0483) 67333. Memorial Service to be announced.

BREAKLEY - Molly, C.B.E., on 27th March 1994. Principal of The Froebel Educational Institute, Roehampton (1965-1970). The funeral service to be at Oakley Wood Crematorium, Leamington Spa, Warks., on Thursday 7th April at 2.30pm. Flowers to W. Goodwin & Sons, Funeral Directors, 38 Coventry Street, Southam, Warks., CV33 0EP. If desired, donations to Save the Children Fund. A Memorial Service at Roehampton to be arranged later.

CLARK - On March 28th 1994, suddenly, Ronald S. formerly of Hurstpierpoint, aged 73 years. Dear father of Josephine and loved grandfather of Laura and Andrei. Enquiries to Frank Davey and Co., 31 High Street, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, tel: (0273) 832179.

COWPER - On March 25th in Devon, Sydney Cowper M.B.E. A.M.I. Mech.E. A.M.I.C.E. & A.M.I.E.E. & Chartered Eng. Private cremation, donations for Mother Theresa of Calcutta may be sent to T & I Stockman of 19 Holwell Road, Brixham, Devon.

CROOM-JOHNSON - On Tuesday March 22nd, peacefully in his 84th year, Henry, CMG CBE TD, dearly loved husband of Jane and father of Oliver and William. Ex British Council and KRRC. Private cremation on Wednesday March 30th.

ELLISON - On March 24th, Mary Frances of Bradford. Funeral has taken place at Bradford Cathedral. Donations, if wished, to Bradford Cathedral or Ardenlea Marie Curie Centre, Ilkley.

EVANS - Mona (Puddie). On March 25th 1994, peacefully at home after a long illness borne with courage, widow of William and a much loved mother and stepmother. Funeral Service at Shrewsbury Crematorium on Friday April 8th at 3.20pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to King George's Fund for Sailors. Enquiries please to the Funeral Directors W.R.R. Pugh & Son, tel: Shrewsbury (0743) 344646.

FIDDIAN-GREEN - On March 29th, John Haywood (Fido), peacefully at home. Funeral will be at 3pm on April 6th at North Curry. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research and Marie Curie.

GOURLAY - Logan J died Monday 28th March 1994, aged 74 years. Dearly loved husband of Marion and father of Jackie, Polly, Logan and Graeme. Funeral Service Putney Vale Crematorium 4.45 pm Thursday March 31st. No flowers. Donations to Help the Aged.

HALFORD - On March 26th 1994, peacefully, Patsy, dear wife of Bruce and mother of the late Peter. Funeral Service at the Torquay Crematorium on Wednesday April 6th at 2.30 pm. Enquiries to Torbay & District Funeral Service, Torquay, tel: (0803) 318005.

HEATH - (Petrina). On 24th March 1994, peacefully in London, Anna Britta, aged 75. Loving wife of Alfred, mother of Nola and grandmother of Aaron and Michael. Will be sorely missed by her family, relatives and friends. Funeral Service, Wednesday 6th April at the Swedish Church in London at 11 am. Family flowers only but if desired donations to Cancer Charities.

HEMMING - Alice. The beloved mother of Louisa and John and grandmother of Nicholas, Sophie, Henry and Bea, died peacefully at home on 28th March. Private cremation; memorial meeting will be held later. No flowers, donations to Commonwealth Countries League, 101 Corringham Road, London NW11 7DL.

HORNBY - On March 27th, at St Catherine's Hospice, Crawley, West Sussex, peacefully after a brave struggle, Betty, wife of T.C. Hornby, late of Calcutta and Lausanne. The funeral will be private, but there will be a Service of Thanksgiving at St George's Church, Hanover Square, London W1, at 3 pm on Thursday April 21st.

HYDE SMITH - On 28th March, peacefully at Margaret House, Barley, aged 89; Brenda Coralie (née Browne), of the Old School, Balsham, widow of Captain R.E. (Teddy) Hyde Smith RN and beloved mother of Bryan and John, grandmother of Karim, Noni, Malek, Laura and Richard. Cremation private. Thanksgiving Service and interment at Great Wilbraham Parish Church, near Cambridge, on Thursday 7th April at 3 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Nicholas Church, Great Wilbraham c/o H.J. Paintin Ltd., 43 High Street, Linton, Cambridge CB1 6HS (0223) 891226.

JOLLY - H Kenneth. Tragically as a result of a road accident on 26th March 1994, aged 76 years. Retired Director of B.R.E.M.A. He will be very sadly missed by his family. Requiem Mass at St Mary and St Philip Church, Fordingbridge, on Wednesday 6th April at 9.30am. All enquiries c/o I.N. Newman Ltd., Salisbury, (0722) 413136.

KING - On March 27th 1994 in hospital, Lt. Col. Charles Vaughan King O.B.E aged 82, late The Devonshire Regiment. Beloved husband of Ellen. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Tuesday April 5th at 12.20pm. Family flowers only. No letters please. Donations if desired to British Heart Foundation c/o Jno Steel & Son, 6 Chesil House, Winchester.

MAYS - On March 27th 1994, suddenly at home, Peter, much loved husband of Phyllis, father of Ann and Jill and grandfather of Grace, Elizabeth and William. Service at St Martin's Church, Dorking, on Wednesday April 6th at 4pm. Donations for the RNLI may be sent to Sherlock & Sons, Trellis House, Dorking.

MURPHY - On Friday 25th March 1994, in Glasgow, Arthur Christie Murphy, late of Alexander Stonehouse. Funeral Service to be held on Thursday 31st March 1994 at Clydebank Crematorium, North Dalnotter, Glasgow, arriving at 2 pm. Family flowers only by request.

PEARSON - On Sunday 27th March 1994, at the Cluy Byghan Residential Home for the Elderly, Elizabeth, aged 86 years of North Rocks, Escalls Cliff, Sennen, Cornwall. Beloved sister of Phoebe and a much loved aunt and great-aunt. Funeral Service on Thursday 31st March, 2.15 pm, at Sennen Parish Church followed by cremation. Family flowers only but donations accepted on behalf of the Sennen Cove Lifeboat Guild c/o W.C. Matthews & Son, Funeral Directors, "Rhoc", Maria's Lane, Sennen, Penzance, Cornwall tel: (0736) 871265.

RICHARDS - Denis and Beryl Richards announce with deepest sorrow the death of their beloved daughter Jacqueline Patricia (Jackie) Hulford, dear wife of Peter, mother of Mark and Simone and much loved sister of Jennie. She will be sorely missed.

SEWELL - Peacefully at Tenterden House Nursing Home, St Albans, on 27th March 1994, John Owens, aged 72. He was much loved and will be greatly missed by his wife Erika, children Shirley, Dennis, Linda and David, and by his grandchildren. Funeral Service at Methodist Church, High Street, Harpenden, on Thursday 7th April at 12.15pm and afterwards at Westfield Cemetery. Flowers to L.C. Weston Funeral Directors tel: (0582) 712865.

TAYLOR (née Fairhurst) - Joyce, beloved wife of Harold, greatly loved mother of Michael and Rosalind and adoring grandmother of Barnaby, died on Saturday 26th March 1994 on a golden morning. Burial service at 2 pm on Wednesday 6th April at The Old St Mary's Church, Perivale Lane, Ealing, followed by committal at 3.30 pm at the Mortlake Crematorium. No flowers please but please send donations to the 'Friends of St Mary's' at 7 Brenicot Close, Ealing, London W13 8EH.

TEMPERLEY - Malcolm Roy, on Sunday 27th March 1994 aged 33 years, in Auckland, NZ, after a long fight against illness. Much loved husband and friend of Sarah Sandley, son of Vera and the late Richard, brother of Larry and uncle of Rebecca and Danielle. Messages to 10 Admiral Beatty Ave, Mt Roskill, Auckland, NZ.

van DOORNINCK - Peacefully on Friday 25th March at her home Cwmlsaf Mynachlogddu, Dyfed SW Wales. Susan Margaret née Dunsterville, beloved wife of the late Lt. Cmdr. Damiaen Joan, formerly wife of Ambassador August Lindt, loving mother of Gillian, Michael and Caroline Lindt, Adam van Doorninck and his late sister Catherine, doting grandmother and great-grandmother and much loved friend of Rosa. Enquiries, Ken Davies F/D (0437) 563319.

WATSON - Barbara, peacefully on March 28th 1994 back in Norfolk, formerly of Salisbury, Wiltshire. A much loved sister-in-law, aunt and great-aunt. Funeral Service at Upton Church, Norfolk, on Thursday March 31st at 2pm. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Salisbury Cathedral.

WHITTLE - Dudley, passed away 24th March 1994, aged 53 years, beloved father to Victoria, Olivia, Amelia, Oliver and Rupert. Funeral at Oakham Parish Church, Thursday March 31st, 2 pm. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to the National Asthma Campaign c/o E.M. Dorman Funeral Director, 10 Main Street, Bisbrooke, Uppingham, LE15 9EP.

WILLIAMS - Peacefully on March 28th in Salisbury, Joan, beloved wife of the late Kingsley Williams, wonderful mother of Anne, Jeremy, Sarah and the late Diana and much loved 'Guy' to 13 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Funeral Service, Salisbury Cathedral, 2.30 pm 6th April. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Salisbury Hospice Care Trust c/o McMillan Unit, Salisbury District Hospital.

WORMALD - On March 27th 1994, Major General Derrick Bruce Wormald D.S.O., M.C. and bar, peacefully at home. Loving husband of the late Betty and dearly loved father of Diana and Sally. Funeral at St Bartholomew's Church, Wickham Bishop, Essex, on Wednesday April 6th at 11.30 am. Family and close friends only. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the National Canine Defence League c/o Richards Funeral Services, 78 Newland Street, Witham, Essex CM8 1AH. Memorial Service to be announced.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BEATTIE - A Thanksgiving Service for Captain George Beattie, CBE., RD., DL., RNR., will be held at Temple Church, EC4, on Tuesday April 26th at 5 pm.

MORRIS - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Edward David Cecil Morris will be held at Exeter Cathedral on Saturday 16th April 1994 at 12 noon.

PECK - A Memorial Eucharist for Mr Rory Peck will be held at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 19th April 1994 at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street and afterwards at Chelsea Barracks.

IN MEMORIAM – WAR

H.M.S. LAFOREY - In proud memory of the Captain and 178 members of the ship's company killed when the ship was sunk on 30th March, 1944, from the survivors and friends and families of the casualties.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DID you emigrate to Australia and hate it? And return to the United Kingdom? Television company looking for people with a story to tell about how Australia is not all that it's cracked up to be. Write to Cir Experience, Channel 9 Australia Inc, 4 Millbank, Westminster, London, SW1P 3JA.

"ROYAL MARINES" H033 Squad Thirleston Brunlow 1996. Contact 071-387 7107"

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTING

HMV Large Cabinet wind-up Gramophones with two doors wanted. Any condition. Also all types with external horn. Yates, The Hewarths, Sandiacre, Nottingham NG10 5NQ 0602 395139.

FLATSHARE

BATTERSEA SW11, 5 mins clap Jcn, sgl, male Prof 25+, £340 PCM. 071 223 1178.

FLATMATES London's foremost (Est 1970) Professional flat sharing service. 071-589 5491

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY
To share with other already successful users.
FLATSHARE
in
THE TIMES
071 481 4000

FOR SALE

PING ZING GOLF Clubs 2-SW (USA) £950. Order to specification Tel 0392 68266.

THE TIMES - 1791-1993 other titles available. Ready for presentation - also "Sundays". Remember When. 081-688 6323.

GIFTS

A BIRTHDATE Newspaper. Original. Superb presentations. Open 7 days a week. Freephone 0800 906609

BIRTHDAY NEWSPAPERS Same day dispatch. 0800 591009

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

EASTER PARADE
"We're late, we're late, for a very important date" cried the Easter bunnies. "We three, are invited to tea, by the Mad Hatter and Alice, at the Markson Pianos showroom. There are 100's of Uprights, Grands and Digital pianos to play on and you can even hire one from as little as £20 per month, with an option to buy later. With three showrooms to wander around, you're sure to find something to hit the right note!
MARKSON PIANOS
Est 1910
071 935 8682 (NW1)
081 854 4517 (SE18)
071 381 4132 (SW6)

A viola of H. & A. Amati Cremonen Andrea fil. F1617. Perfect condition, very good instrument. Scale 412 mm. Certificates on request. Please Reply to Box No 6890

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

COSTCUTTERS on flights & hols to Europe, USA & most destinations. Diplomat Travel Services Ltd: 071-730 2201. ABTA 26703 IATA/ATOL 1355.

FOR the latest discounted air fares Worldwide on your travel dates, call Seat Search 021 735 7570. ABTA C9880 retail agts

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SWIFTCALL
TELEPHONE CLUB
HALF PRICE CALLS TO THE USA
★ USA/Canada 25p/28p per minute ★ Hong Kong/Taiwan/Japan 56p
★ Australia 44p ★ India 76p ★ Israel 76p ★ South Africa 76p
Off peak special 16p – 9pm till 9am + all weekend
Offer ends 31st March '94
Any touchtone phone (including mobiles) gives secure coded access.
SWIFTCALL invoice you direct – not via your phone bill
For instant connection call
071-488 2001
*Please have your VISA/Access card ready; prepay from £20 + VAT = 125 minutes

OBITUARIES

SIR ROY GRIFFITHS

Sir Roy Griffiths, deputy chairman of the National Health Service Policy Board and adviser to the Government on the National Health Service, died on March 28 aged 67. He was born on July 8, 1926.



ARMED with expertise gained as managing director of J. Sainsbury, Roy Griffiths was responsible for introducing the management skills of the supermarket to the National Health Service in the early 1980s. He has brought about what many believe to have been the most fundamental reform to the health service since its creation. He was also the architect of the Government's current policy on community care which has transferred control from central government to local authorities, made them primarily purchasers of community care rather than providers and enabled more elderly and handicapped people to live at home.

Although subsequently overshadowed in the public eye by the internal market reforms of 1991, Griffiths's recommendations for radical changes in the management of the NHS were far better received and, indeed, were a precondition of the later measures, over which he had some misgivings.

When he became a "trouble-shooter" for Maragaret Thatcher in 1983 and began his assessment of the NHS, Griffiths was horrified by what he encountered. The NHS was the biggest employer of labour in Europe but barely knew how many people were on its payroll, let alone who was in charge of what. This led to his famous comment: "If Florence Nightingale were carrying her lamp through the corridors of the NHS today she would almost certainly be searching for the people in charge." He was never short of an attention-focusing phrase, noting in 1988 that community care was everybody's distant relative but nobody's baby".

Ernest Roy Griffiths was the son and grandson of miners. Educated at Wolstanton Grammar School in Staffordshire, he won a scholarship to Oxford but worked in the pits for two years as a "Bevin Boy" before attending Keble College and obtaining a degree in law. He began work as a solicitor in 1952 and four years later became a legal adviser to Monsanto Chemicals rising to become director of Monsanto Europe. In 1965 he attended an advanced management course at Columbia Business School. He joined Sainsbury's in 1968 and a year later became director of personnel and administration. By 1975 he was deputy chairman and four years later managing director. He was responsible for Sainsbury's early involvement in the use of new systems and technology, which gave the group a competitive edge. He was credited with instituting far-sighted policies in Sainsbury's management and was widely identified as one of the main forces behind the group's expansion which resulted in it becoming the country's largest grocery retailer with a 15.7 per cent share of the packaged groceries market.

Mrs Thatcher and several of her ministers became convinced that someone who had the administrative skills to run Sainsbury's so successfully was the ideal man to shake-up the NHS. In February 1983 Griffiths was chosen by the Prime Minister to head what was envisaged as an enquiry into the use of manpower in the NHS. At his instigation, however, it became an enquiry into how the NHS was being managed. Instituted at a time of increasing concern over cuts to the NHS, Griffiths, supported by senior executives of United Biscuits, British Telecom and Television South West, carried out the most thorough investigation of the NHS structure ever undertaken by unpaid outsiders. Griffiths likened what they found to what Truman said when Eisenhower was elected President: "Poor old Ike has just come from the military and he will sit at this large desk pressing buttons, sending out instructions and making demands of everyone in the country and not a damn thing will happen."

In theory the old style system of consensus management called for a doctor, nurse, treasurer and administrator to work together as a team. Griffiths reported that in practice it was hard to find who was in charge and even more difficult to see how policy at the top was translated into action and change on the ground.

He and his team recommended a more thrusting, committed and energetic style of management at all levels of the NHS. His report proposed the establishment of a new management board to support the Secretary of State for Health in running the service: the appointment of "general managers" for regional and district health authorities and a greater involvement of doctors and nurses in management.

In the same month that his NHS report was published, Griffiths also basked in the credit for Sainsbury's 28 per cent increase in first-half profits, a result which astonished the City.

Reactions to his NHS report ranged from enthusiasm to near abuse. Various elements within the service resisted the reforms and in two years a dozen general managers brought in from outside the service, particularly former military officers, resigned their posts. But there is now general agreement that the reform measures sharpened the effectiveness, responsiveness and efficiency of the NHS. Griffiths was able to point with satisfaction last year to the fact that the service had some 120 general managers or chief executives with a nursing background compared with only 35 in 1986, and the rancour aroused in the early years has largely abated.

Following publication of his NHS report in October 1983, Griffiths became a member of the Health Services Supervisory Board. He was knighted in the 1985 birthday honours for his services to the NHS. A year later he was appointed Adviser to the Government on the Health Service and deputy chairman of the NHS Policy Board.

In December 1986 Griffiths was asked by the Government to conduct an overview of community care policy. After three months' work he issued a report which argued that money now spent on institutions for the elderly and the handicapped should be separated and transferred to social service departments of local councils as the patients themselves moved. These local departments should, in turn, prepare coherent local plans for spending the money which would come in the form of specific grants. The benefit system, he said, should lose its bias towards care in institutions.

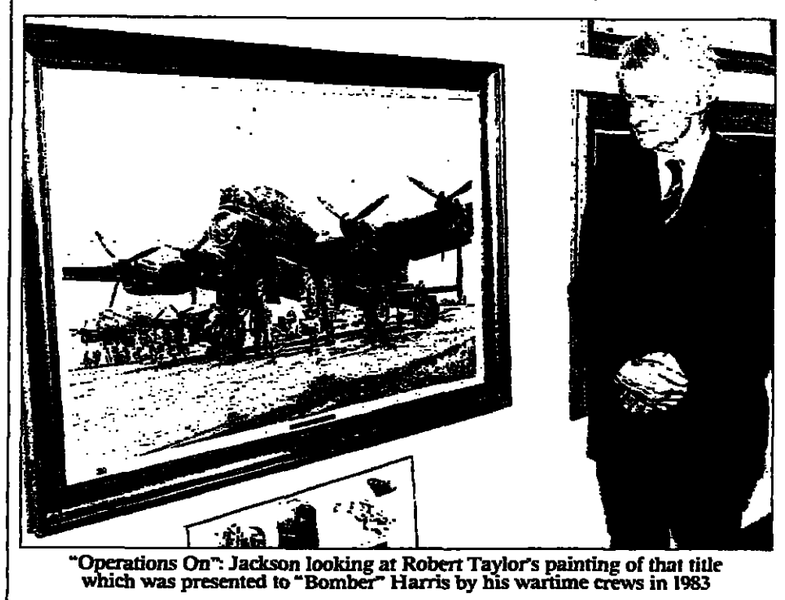
It took the Government more than a year to publish the report but when it did so it was announced that local authorities were to be given prime responsibility for caring for the elderly and the handicapped. It is probably still too soon for the effects of this new policy to be properly assessed but in the view of Griffiths's admirers, the results are likely to be an appreciable improvement in the quality of life of elderly and disabled people with, as a spin-off, a cutback in the Government's spiralling social security bill.

Griffiths was not unmindful of the problems of unwarranted growth in management within the NHS but maintained that, compared with other countries, this was still low. He believed the key to managerial excellence was in making certain the simple things were done well. He was sceptical of politicians who favoured sweeping reform of an entire system to deal with a particular problem but regretted that his 1983 recommendations for the decentralising of responsibility were not acted upon until 1991.

Griffiths retired as executive director of Sainsbury's in 1988 and a year later he was appointed deputy chairman of the NHS Policy Board and president of Age Concern England. He continued to serve as non-executive deputy chairman of Sainsbury's until July 1991.

Roy Griffiths is survived by his wife Winifred whom he married in 1952, and three children, two of whom became doctors.

NORMAN JACKSON, VC



"Operations On": Jackson looking at Robert Taylor's painting of that title which was presented to "Bomber" Harris by his wartime crews in 1983

Norman Jackson, VC, who won the medal while serving with the RAFVR during the Second World War, died on March 26 aged 74. He was born in Ealing, west London, on April 8, 1919.

IN THE annals of the Victoria Cross few exploits are more extraordinary than the manner in which Norman Jackson won Britain's supreme award for valour. On April 26, 1944, he was flight engineer of a Lancaster bomber which was attacking the important ball bearing manufacturing plants at Schweinfurt in Lower Franconia. The bomb load had just been released at 20,000 feet and the aircraft was turning for home when a German night fighter pounced.

In spite of evasive action by the Lancester pilot which tested the bomber's airframe to the limits, the cannon fire of the attacking fighter struck home. Jackson was hit by a number of shell fragments and wounded in the right leg and shoulder. But this was no time even to think of seeking first aid for his injuries, as the rest of the crew could clearly see that the bomber's starboard inner engine had been hit and was on fire.

Jackson tried to feather the propeller to reduce the fuel flow and minimise the risk of an explosion. But he could not do this and asked his captain's permission to try to put out the blaze. Stuffing a hand fire extinguisher into the top of his Mae West, he jettisoned the escape hatch above the pilot's head, pulled himself out of the cockpit and began to crawl back along the top of the fuselage towards the starboard wing root. But before he could begin the perilous journey out on to the wing his parachute pack came open and the canopy and rigging lines spilled out into the cockpit.

Seizing hold of them, the pilot, bomb aimer and navigator were able to ensure that he was not blown off in the 200 mph slipstream. Jackson then clawed his way out on to the wing with the other aircrew paying out the lines of his parachute. Grasping an air intake on the leading edge of the wing to help him, he managed to extinguish the fire, but the German fighter returned to the attack and its next salvo of cannon shells set the engine on fire again. Jackson suffered severe burns to his hands and face and in the icy blast at 20,000 feet was finding extreme difficulty in keeping his grip. Two of the crew were also killed in this attack and at that point the Lancaster's pilot gave the order to bale out.

They released Jackson's parachute lines and he disappeared into the darkness. His parachute had been burnt in several places and his fellow crew members did not seriously expect to see him alive again. In an uncontrolled descent he landed heavily in a wood, injuring himself further and breaking an ankle. By this time his right eye was closed through burns and both his hands were useless.

In this state, he lay until daybreak when he crawled to a cabin in the nearest village. There, the two daughters of the house took him in while the father went to fetch the police. He then spent ten months in a prison camp hospital where he was cured for by a Canadian surgeon who was also a PoW. Near the end of the war he escaped and made his way behind the lines of the advancing Americans who had him repatriated to Britain.

Norman Cyril Jackson had been brought up as a foster child by a Twickenham couple, Mr and Mrs Edwin Gunter, along with an adoptive "brother" Geoffrey Hartley, who was later to win the George Medal fighting off a bandit gang in Malaya in 1951. He was subsequently killed in operations against the Mau Mau in Kenya.

After leaving school Norman Jackson at first worked in a factory but in 1939 joined the RAF Volunteer Reserve, eventually becoming a sergeant flight engineer with No 106 squadron, RAFVR. After being repatriated to Britain he was made a warrant officer and his VC was gazetted in October 1945.

Jackson subsequently left the RAF with a disability pension of £2 a week. But in spite of the serious injuries to his hands he got a job as a salesman with the Distillers Company with which he worked until his retirement in the early 1970s. He had settled at Hampton Hill, west London, where he built himself a bungalow.

A great family man, and a humorous and gentle character, Jackson is survived by his wife Alma and by four sons and three daughters.

DAME WHINA COOPER



Dame Whina Cooper, DBE, ONZ, New Zealand President of Maori Land Rights since 1975, died on March 26 in Panguru, North Island, aged 98. She was born on December 9, 1895.

AN INDEFATIGABLE campaigner for Maori rights, the venerable figure of Whina Cooper became a potent symbol of her race's aspiration for social justice. Her great age, sagacious demeanour and moderate opinions on topics which were always liable to inflame passions, made even some white New Zealanders think of her as the "Mother of the Nation".

She had begun campaigning at the age of 18. Yet perhaps no one action more encapsulated her life's work than her leadership of the Great Land March of Maoris from Te Hapua at the extreme northern tip of North Island to the parliament building 680 miles away in Wellington, in 1975. For the 29 days of the march the image of her, then 80 but striding out indomitably with the aid of a stick at the head of her people, did much to put Maori land claims into the centre of the domestic political concerns of New Zealand.

Whina Cooper was born the daughter of Heremia Te Wake, a chief of the Te Rarawa tribe and a Justice of the Peace, in a tiny settlement on the shores of the Hokianga Inlet in New Zealand's Northland. She was educated at St Joseph's College in the North Island city of Napier. There she took her proficiency certificate and qualified as a school teacher. In 1917 she returned to Northland, where she taught at Parawenga School. In the previous year she had married Richard Gilbert. At this stage she had already begun agitating for better conditions for Maoris, her first campaign being for the draining of a swamp near Panguru.

After her husband died she married, in 1935, William Cooper, and worked in Panguru as postmistress and storekeeper. From 1940 she was president of Panguru Federated Farmers and in 1952 became the first president of the Maori Women's Welfare League. Through her energy she turned it into the first national Maori forum for discussion then in existence. She increased her influence through her presidency of the Maori Progressive Cultural Organisation from 1966 and eventually, in 1975, of Maori Land Rights.

She had wide interests, especially in sport. Although latterly confined to a wheelchair, in her youth she had enjoyed hockey, netball and table tennis and in 1947 she became president of the Hokianga Rugby Union. She was also a keen shot and a member of the Whangarei Gun Club in the 1930s. She became a JP, for Auckland, in 1953. In 1979 she published *Notable New Zealanders*.

She reaped many honours in recognition of her achievements: she was appointed MBE in 1953, advanced to CBE in 1974 and created DBE in 1981. In 1989 the United Nations honoured her for her environmental work and she was made a member of the Order of New Zealand (ONZ) in 1991.

Her second husband died in 1949. She leaves a daughter of her first marriage and two sons and two daughters of her second.

DACK RAMBO

Dack Rambo, television actor, died from an Aids-related illness in California on March 21 aged 52. He was born on November 13, 1941.



THE highpoint of Dack Rambo's television career came in 1986 when he was offered the part of Jack Ewing in the American soap opera *Dallas*. By that time *Dallas*'s viewing figures had slumped from the show's heyday in the early 1980s and Patrick Duffy, who played the mild-mannered Bobby Ewing, wanted to leave the show.

The producer's solution was to kill off the Bobby Ewing character and introduce Dack Rambo as a long-lost Ewing cousin and *Dallas*'s new romantic lead. But, though Rambo was certainly a handsome substitute, he did not prove to have a sufficiently masculine screen presence to make him an effective match for his adversary, the villainous J. R. Ewing.

The show's ratings continued to decline and the producers in desperation wooed Duffy back from the dead on a more lucrative package. A new series of *Dallas* opened the following year with the far-fetched proposition that everything in the previous year's series, including Bobby Ewing's death, had been nothing but a "dream" of Pam Ewing's. Having formed part of that dream sequence Rambo was thus erased from the cast.

Dack Rambo was one of the few actors in *Dallas* who could claim to know the remotest thing about life on a ranch. Born Norman Rambeau, he grew up with his identical twin brother Orman on a small cotton farm in the San Joaquin Valley. Norman and Orman decided to change their names to Dack and Dirk, and launched themselves on a musical career in the mould of the Everley Brothers as the Rambo Twins. They were spotted in church by Loretta Young, who was so impressed that she secured them parts as her sons in her television series, *The New Loretta Young Show*, and the twins proved immediately popular with its teenage audience.

A year later Dack Rambo won a role in the soap opera *Never Too Young*, but his career went into a ten-year, decline after his twin brother was killed in a car crash in 1967. By 1979 his prospects looked set to improve when he was given his own television vehicle, playing a wealthy playboy in *The Sword of Justice*. The series, however, was shortlived and Rambo had to content himself with small parts in television films before finally achieving a modicum of fame in *Dallas*.

In 1991 he was diagnosed as being HIV positive and gave up his part as a congressman in the soap opera *Another World* to campaign for greater awareness of the disease.

PERSONAL COLUMN

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

UP TO 60% DISCOUNT ON SCHEDULED FLIGHTS WORLDWIDE
WORLD LINK
Agents for ABTA, ATOL & IATA consolidators
TEL: 071 538 8273

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

ALL DISCOUNTED Economy, Club, F/class. All W/wide flexi travel. Sth Calling Travel. 081 940 3000. Access/Visa.

CANADA, USA, S. Africa, Australia, N.Z., Europe. Good discount fares. Longmore Int'l. 081 686 1101. ABTA 73196

GERMANY Daily low cost flights. 07183644444. Visa Access. ABTA ATOL IATA.

PORTUGAL. All areas. Villas/apts., hotels, boundless golf, flights. Longmore Int'l. 081 686 1101. ABTA 73196

WINTER SPORTS

FINAL Spring conditions in Chamonix, Zermatt and Courchevel. Call the specialist chalet specialists Ski Scott Dunn 081 767 0202 Abta C4668.

WEEKEND Skiing Switzerland & France any day! Tel the experts White Roc 071 792 1188

SITUATIONS WANTED

JACK of All trades 55, experienced African Hunter highly travelled, well read, translator from French and Italian. Photographer, Journalist. Own Car/Driver, looking for Job. Mr Perrino. Fax:010 39 932 90 3053.

SWISS lady (20) seeks position in family for 3-4 months to perfect her English. Any type of household work would be considered in return for board, lodging & pocket money. Pls write: Heidy Gantenbein, Wettingerstr. 17, 5400 Baden, Switzerland. 010 41 56216605.

TICKETS FOR SALE

TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment. Most sports tickets are subject to strict re-sale and transfer rules.

FA SEMIS
BARBARA STREISAND
Nirvana, Garth Brooks, Pink Floyd, Billy Joel, Sunset, Phantom, Cats, Les Mis, Saigon, Grease
All Premier league soccer
Royal Ascot & Wimbledon 94'
All pop, sport and theatre
071 323 4480

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE TIMES
COURT AND SOCIAL PAGE
Over the Easter Bank Holiday the following deadlines will apply:
Notices for Monday April 4th and Tuesday April 5th should be received in writing by Thursday March 31st at 10am.
All announcements accepted subject to confirmation.
TEL: 071 782 7347.
FAX: 071 481 9313.

TICKETS FOR SALE

ABSOLUTELY ALL Sold Out Events. All theatre, pop and sport. Wimbledon 94. CC Hotline. 071 930 4410/4431.

ALL AVAIL: Phantom, Cream, Pink Floyd, Streisand, Collins, all football. 071 480 6165

ALL BEST SEATS Coca Cola FA Cup, Streisand, Collins, Rugby, Cricket, Ascot, Wimbledon. Debs bought & sold & all theatre. 071 247 0767

All BEST TICKETS. Sunset, Phantom, Saigon, Collins, All sport, 071 839 2122, cc's.

ALL FA SEMIS Wimbledon 94, Streisand, tickets bought & sold top prices paid 071 497 2535.

ALL FOOTBALL, B Streisand, Floyd, Phantom, Saigon, Les Mis, Grease. 071 497 1407

ALL SPORT Phantom, Sunset, Cricket, Saigon, Cream, Les Mis, Boxing/hold. 071 497 1407

ALL TICKETS, Sunset, Phantom, Streisand, all football, World Cup '94, All major sport, Pop, theatre, 071-925 0065, 071 930 0800 CCs Accepted.

ALL TICKETS. Coca Cola Cup, Rugby, Phantom all sold out events 071 287 2701 / 2709 / Fax 071 704 0660.

ALL TICKETS Phantom, Sunset Blvd, Les Mis, Miss Saigon, B Joel, Take That, S Bassey and pop concerts. 081 445 9697.

TICKETS FOR SALE

ALL TICKETS. Phantom, Sunset Blvd, Les Mis, Saigon, Cats, All sports. 071 706 0383 or 0365

PHANTOM, Sunset, World Cup, Rugby tkts + cheap air fares worldwide, 071 839 5363

TICKETS Bought and sold, FA Cup semis, Premiere soccer, all rugby, Ascot, Phantom, Sunset, Collins, Take That, Streisand, Maitland, 071 486 4414 City.

UNDER THE CLOCK

AMERICANS SEEK friendship, romance and marriage with British ladies & gentlemen! All aged Europ & Rose/English Connection (Dept U), 26 Cecil Square, Margate, Kent. Tel/Fax 0843-290736. As featured on National Television!

PLUSH PARTNERS National Dating Agency. If you are please or prefer a plushy partner ring 0582 716909.

SINGLES DINNER Parties in Yorkshire. Midmonster introductions. Leeds 0532 704806.

THE ULTIMATE in small, middle-to-senior marriage bureaux! (S.Tel.) Est. 1960. Katherine Allen, 18 Thayer St, London W1M 5LD. Tel: 071-935 3118

WANTED

PRE 1940 clothes, linen, lace, paisley shawls, furs, dolls etc. wanted. Tel 071 229 9618

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you from the RNLI
It is your support through legacies and voluntary contributions that allows us to meet our daily running costs of £100,000 and provide our lifeboatmen with the boats and equipment they need.
For full details on legacies, contact:
The Director, Dept DT, Royal National Lifeboat Institution, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ, or phone (0202) 671133.

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
To place your Personal advertisement or Birth, Marriage or Death Notices for Friday 1st April please call no later than:
12 noon on Thursday 31st March
On Saturday 2nd April our staff will be available on the normal telephone number
071 481 4000
between 9.30am and 12.30pm.
Our offices will be closed on the following dates:
Friday 1st April
Monday 4th April
If you wish to book an announcement during the Bank Holiday please telephone
0374 617843
where our staff will be available to take your call between 9.30 and 4pm

TOLSTOY'S EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

On August 28 next by the Russian Calendar, a date which corresponds with September 10 of our own, Count Leo N. Tolstoy will complete his eightieth year, and there is a plan afoot for giving the event an international celebration. It will be an event of international interest. Home-loving, home-keeping, most Russian of the Russians, of all great authors, perhaps, the one who owes least to the literature and civilisation of other countries, Tolstoy is read and discussed and quarrelled about all the world over.

There are plenty of causes for quarrelling. To some, his Socialism is not only abhorrent, but a betrayal of his great artistic gifts; to others it is the essence of his worth. To some he is a renegade, a reactionary, one who would pull the world back into a darkness from which it only emerged after ages of effort; to others, he is the apostle of a new light and truth. To some, he is the first great philosopher of art; while others declare him completely ignorant of the rudiments of aesthetics.

And while some find two Tolstoys, and are ready to acclaim the author of "War and Peace" and of "Anna Karenina", but have no good word for him after his "conversion" late in the seventies, there are others who maintain that the two Tolstoys are one and the same, and that the later works, the Socialistic, the religious and *contra mundum* writings, are merely the inevitable development of the earlier. From his earliest days there were two Tolstoys, the boy who lashed his back with a rope, and the boy who lay in bed and ate sweet things and read novels. The spiritual and the physical in him were both acute, and always in opposition. Circumstances ruled that until he was fifty he should regard the antagonism chiefly from the physical side; and so we have the great novels, crowded with brilliant figures whose physical presence is so vividly expressed as to seem sometimes almost oppressive.

Then came what looks like a revulsion, but was only a shifting of the point of view from which the old antagonism was regarded; and thenceforth we have the doctrine of renunciation, the declaration of war on the body, the definite attempt to foster the spiritual life by the mortification of the physical. But this was a tendency that may be clearly traced throughout the "pre-conversion" writings; it was not new, any more than the capital point of Tolstoy's philosophy was new — the brotherhood of man.

ON THIS DAY

March 30 1908

The movement for an international celebration of Tolstoy's four-score years originated in Russia. Literary figures in England proposed that a delegation be sent to St Petersburg to present an address to the count

How Radio 5 Live came to life

This week Britain's first rolling news and sport network came on air. For **Jenny Abramsky**, the new network's controller, the months leading up to the birth were traumatic — as her diary proves

Last year ends with me seeing my husband Al and son Rob off on the holiday we planned, while I stay behind to work. My disappointment is tempered by the excitement of commissioning programmes from independent and BBC producers around the UK.

January 6: Terrific day in Belfast, talking programme ideas. Keith Baker, editor news and current affairs, tells me to listen to the Hole in the Wall gang. I think we have found our first stars for 5 Live: really witty and sharp.

January 10: Searching for jingles. I am depressed: everything we listen to is hopeless.

January 14: We have met all the programme departments around the country, heard their ideas; now a first attempt at scheduling for the network. Proves to be more difficult than expected. Can't afford to buy all the things we like.

January 17: Editorial meeting with sport, really constructive questions. They are pleased we have decided to include "5" in the name of the network. Feel *again* the partnership between news and current affairs and sport will work. One thing is certain, there will be more sport on 5 Live.

January 18: Head of news and current affairs publicity briefs me for the regional and national press launches planned for next week. My mind is on other things, such as how on earth we're going to pay for this network. Another jingles meeting — I'm still unhappy.

January 19 and 20: Decide I am quite mad as I spend two days at ITN as a judge watching television programmes for the journalism awards. I am called about Brian Redhead — the news is bad and don't feel in the mood for anything.

January 24: Weekend editor and I search for a better structure for Saturday and Sunday evening programmes. Choose colours for the newsroom and go to London press conference. I am daunted by the number of people but questions are not as hostile as I predicted.

January 25: Catch 6am plane to Glasgow for another press briefing — someone asks for a job!

January 31: At last we think we've found a company, Voice and Music, which can make 5 Live's jingles, thanks to Mike (Lewis) and Martin (Cox). Meetings roll on with my editors, Richard Wright, head of sound, Tony Hall, managing director of news and current affairs — I wonder whether I've had any pause for thought.

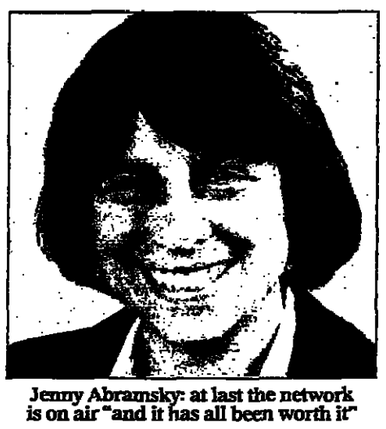
February is a blur of meetings, discussions, debates on tone and sound for the real-time pilots. I feel we will never have enough time to get this network on air — still only a third of staff on board.

March 3: Thirty new staff arrive *and* real-time pilots begin. Still just over half the staff here. Say goodbye to the family for most of the week. In at 5am and stay until 7.30pm listening. Go home, cook a meal, back at 2am until 5am, three hours in bed then return until 9.30pm. I miss James Naughtie's goodbye and Nick Clarke's hello to *The World At One* party. Go home to cook children a meal, then back between 10pm and 2am.

March 10: I meet with editors to mull over what went wrong in the pilots.

March 11: We still haven't sorted out travel coverage for the network — try to bang heads together — *Breakfast* and *Nationwide* want dedicated travel reporters — how can we achieve it at low cost?

March 12: I spend Saturday morning with my children Maia and Rob, most of the time wondering what is happening with my husband's job — he should hear today. Back into work at 7pm for more pilots. Home at midnight.



Jenny Abramsky: at last the network is on air "and it has all been worth it"

March 13: Cook Sunday lunch — back to work until early Monday.

March 14: 6pm, throw a party for all the people who built the newsroom in record time. They've done a brilliant job and without them we could not have got on air. Message from Al — he is to be director of planning and performance management for the health service.

March 15: Press interviews, editors' meetings and a reception for 5 Live organised by Plaid Cymru and Scots Nats at House of Commons. Home for 9.30pm and the children are waiting for me. They are hungry. I cook a meal.

March 16: 5am and I'm back to work on the pilots.

March 17: In late this morning at 8.30am — I am so tired I cannot be sure I am thinking properly.

March 18: Stagger in exhausted to find press photographer waiting. I'm in no mood — I want to sleep, not have my picture taken. The new jingles package arrives and we try them out in the studio. They are really good. I operate the digital audio tape in the studio cubicle and decide that being a studio manager was the best thing I ever did. I do a music edit on the half-hour news sting.

March 19: At 5am I make a tomato salad. Then into the office at 6 for more pilots until noon. Rush back to cook for Al's chairman's farewell party — 45 people coming to dinner. Editor of *Newstalk* comes at 4pm to talk about programme. She sits while I continue cooking. Cook until 7pm. Fifteen guests arrive early while I'm trying to have a bath.

March 20: 9am into work before going to a fortieth birthday party of a great friend. I have to leave suddenly as exhaustion overwhelms. We eat party leftovers at home. Editor *Newstalk* comes round for a further chat.

March 21: 5am pilots and I can hear that *The Breakfast Programme* is coming together. *The Magazine* is taking on a real personality. But we are not making the best use of the jingles. I call Voice and Music for a re-mix. Rush home at 8pm to greet my mother-in-law, who has come to stay. Al has gone to Hungary.

March 23: Take John Birt to see the newsroom. He chats to editors and presenters and listens in the studio to the pilot — likes it. Then it's Brian Redhead's memorial service — a moving occasion. He really did touch people's hearts. Later that day, have a great meeting with Newsgathering, planning for next week's launch. I am beginning to feel confident, so long as we can keep this up. Our real test will be covering sudden news and sport events as they happen — will we be able to get to them quickly?

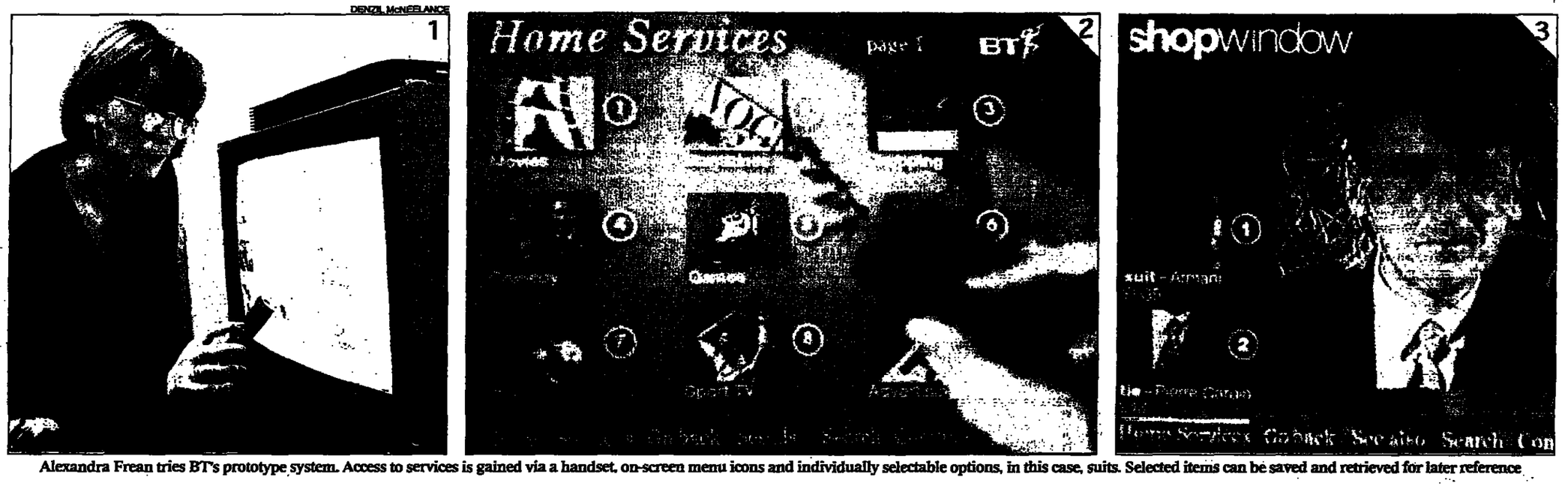
March 24: Thank-you party for news and current affairs personnel, who organised 900 interviews — there were times in January when they wanted to murder me. They have been absolutely astonishing. I want to say thanks.

March 25: Almost on the air. An editors' meeting, four editors forget to turn up — is this a bad omen? Martin and I have a meeting at 10 Downing Street and rush back for 5 Live staff meeting. Then on to John Dunn's Radio 2 show as his guest. At 7, stagger in to pre-launch party, our last chance to be all together before we go live. Terrific atmosphere, cramped and noisy, wonderful sense of anticipation. Must get home to cook for mother-in-law.

March 27: I sleep late and then have wonderful time at the Coca-Cola Cup final. From Wembley to Broadcasting House for final chat with the teams putting together tomorrow morning's programmes. I know the best thing I can do is get out of their hair. 9.15pm home — Al is back from Hungary and has cooked a meal — hurray!

March 28: Get up at 3am, go to work. Flowers from Radios 2 and 4 and Newsgathering. I feel touched by all the support. 5am — the network is on air. I hear Jane Garvey say: "Good Morning, Radio 5 Live — 24 hours of news and sport from the BBC" and I know it has all been worth it.

Under attack from its rivals, BT has launched a £15 billion project to develop its own shopping and entertainment superhighway



Alexandra Frean tries BT's prototype system. Access to services is gained via a handset, on-screen menu icons and individually selectable options, in this case, suits. Selected items can be saved and retrieved for later reference

I have zapped the future and it works

From Schwarzenegger to scuba diving, **Alexandra Frean** puts BT's video-on-demand system through its paces

After months of hype about the brave new multimedia world of interactive entertainment, British Telecom has taken the first tentative steps on the information superhighway by putting its video-on-demand (VOD) system on trial.

The move is timely: the cable television industry celebrates its tenth anniversary this week; BT is facing stiff competition both from cable operators and from Mercury; and according to the most optimistic forecasts the system could generate annual sales of £1 billion by the end of the decade. But does it work?

Seventy BT workers in Suffolk are testing a prototype of the system in their homes. *The Times* decided to try VOD too, and examine its potential uses.

At its most simple, VOD allows customers to use their telephone line to "order" films, programmes and information from a set of menus on their television screens. To use it, customers need a set-top box which converts the signals sent down telephone lines into television pictures, and a remote control device, which is used to make selections from a series of on-screen menus.

In my trial, I chose first to watch a Hollywood movie, selected from a special feature films menu. With a few zaps on the remote control, I called up *Terminator 2*, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. The on-screen menu offering the film gave a synopsis of the plot, listed the leading actors and gave the duration of the movie. It gave me the opportunity to watch the film immediately, or to save it until later.

I was also offered a range of television shows displayed on another menu, under genre headings including comedies, soap operas, children's and sports programmes.

My trial was free, but the general public are likely to be charged for individual programmes or films with the tariff included on their telephone bill. According to Steve Maine, BT's director of Visual and Broadcast Services, the company will aim to charge between £1 and £3 per movie, to make VOD competitive with video rental shops.

"We have not worked out the prices for different types of programmes but it could be something like 20p for the news, 50p for the weekend's football results and 15p for a soap opera," he says.

The next stage of my trial was a tele-shopping spree on which I booked a scuba diving holiday in Australia for a family of four. The booking procedure took me through a number of on-screen menus. The first allowed me to select my holiday by location, cost or even by departure airport. At each stage in the selection process, I was shown a series of short films taking me around my hotel and resort or illustrating various leisure activities.

At the end of the procedure I "saved" the details of my booking under a special menu entitled "Our Holiday". This would enable me to call up a neatly packaged programme later, containing all the films and extracts relating to my reservation.

I should mention here that a personal identity number (PIN) code is needed to operate the entire system — in order to stop children running up huge bills — and customers can still use their telephone for ordinary calls at the same time.

Before starting my holiday booking I told the VOD system that I was interested in the result of a major US golf championship (I lied), and asked it to interrupt me when the winning shot was being played so that I could switch channels to watch it. This it did. I was also able to choose whether to see any advertisements while doing my shopping. The premium rate service cuts out all the ads, the normal service keeps them all in and the "clever ads" service ensures that customers are shown only commercials relating to the subject matter being watched at the time — in my case, holidays.

Mr Maine believes that the range of services that could be offered using the VOD technology is enormous. BT's role in all of this would be as a facilitator, passing information to and from the customer along the information superhighway. It would be up to commercial enterprises to develop the services used via this route.

"If BT or any one company tried to integrate all the services that could be used on the system into a single entity it would fail," he says. "It is too vast. But it does create opportunities for companies to offer services in new areas using the VOD infrastructure."

In addition to obvious services provided by the Hollywood studios, television companies, news agencies and big retailers, there is enormous scope for specialised services, Mr Maine says. Auctioneers, for example, could use it to show potential customers short films on their lots.

VIDEO ON DEMAND: HOW IT WILL WORK FOR YOU

BT puts its system on trial in 2,500 homes

BT is to launch a market trial of VOD among 2,500 members of the public later this year. The system has many obstacles to overcome, however, before it could even begin to become a mass-market product.

At present, the set-top boxes containing the equipment needed to bring VOD into the home are almost as big as most television sets. They are believed to cost thousands of pounds to manufacture at the moment.

The system works by digitally compressing programmes and films — this involves stripping out all the "unnecessary" data in the electronic signals used to transmit sound and vision — before sending them down the phone line. The resulting picture quality approximates that of a VHS. Many believe, however, that the furthest these signals can travel along BT's existing coaxial copper telephone network without serious loss in picture quality is three miles.

According to BT, as 90 per cent of British homes are within 3.4 miles of its telephone exchanges, they just about fall within the system's limits. It is widely recognised, however, that VOD would perform better on a fibre optic network of cables, which could both carry more information and produce a higher picture quality.

Sir Ian Vallance, BT's chairman, told the Commons trade and industry select committee two weeks ago that BT wants to invest £15 billion to install a fibre optic network to homes and businesses throughout the UK. However, telecommunications regulations prevent it from doing so. At present the company is banned from offering broadcast entertainment over its phone network until 2001, under a ruling designed to encourage competition from cable TV companies. (BT says VOD is not broadcasting as the company enters into a discrete relationship with each customer each time he or she uses the service.)

There are also doubts about the number of customers who can access VOD at any one time. The attitude of the film studios or holders of the rights to TV programmes remains unclear. There is some scepticism about VOD's commercial viability.

A successful VOD system will require a joint effort between a number of groups. For its trial, for example, BT is working with a number of other companies, including Apple, the American computer company, Oracle, the information services group, and nCUBE, which is providing some of the computer hardware. Northern Telecom and Alcatel Network Systems are also contributing technology. The programmes come from Carlton, Granada, the BBC, Thames, LWT, Hollywood studios and Picture Music International.

Charge of the phone brigade: Mercury goes into battle

The advertising tussle between the young provider of telephone services and its long-established rival will heat up this weekend

When marketers start talking fairness and honesty, you know the battle is getting dirty. Now fairness and honesty have come to telephones.

Ferocious new advertising from Mercury this weekend will lay into BT for its practice of rounding up charges to the nearest unit. The ads, coloured red for warning rather than Mercury advertising's characteristic blue, use Harry Enfield, the comic "company spokesman", to tell consumers not to be "bamboozled with our rivals' befuddling statistics". Enfield declares: "An unmentionable telephone company rather unsportingly charges customers for time on the phone they haven't used. Another telephone company would keep your change without turning a hair. Conduct which befits a cad."

The campaign marks a new aggression by Mercury, whose ads traditionally have a lighter tone. It has been sparked by BT's abolition of morning peak-rate charges, itself a response to Oftel regulations demanding that BT cut its overall basket of prices by the formula of the retail price index minus 7.5 per cent this year. BT has been making a big push on price, from blanket TV and press advertising down to publicity stunts, including printing its message on this Easter's fresh eggs. It has been making a marketing silk purse out of a regulatory sow's ear, attacking pricing, Mercury's strong point, and forcing both sides to shift the emphasis to new areas.

According to David Flint Wood, Mercury's advertising manager, BT's recent campaign has succeeded in "confusing the [pricing] issue. We are having to work harder to make it clear to people what the deal is. Increasingly, the differentiator will be the way we treat customers."

BT, having entered the marketing doldrums, is gearing up for its own onslaught. Last year, it spent £50 million on advertising, yet public awareness of Mercury's Enfield ads is higher — for less than a quarter of the media spend. BT advertising is, says Flint Wood, "like wallpaper". BT's marketing challenge, however, is formidable. Explaining its vast range of product and service offerings and its ever-changing prices to an indifferent, even hostile, population is not easy. "We have," says Mike Bowtell, BT's head of corporate affairs, "an awful lot of things to say to a great diversity of audiences. We need to bring it all together logically and coherently. Multi-brand companies have it easy."

In the residential market, Mercury has only 750,000 customers compared to BT's 20 million, so while Mercury can content itself with "cherry picking" BT's most profitable clients, the only way in which BT can boost its revenues is by expanding the market. Which it is now trying to do. In America, the average residential household spends 20 minutes a day on the phone. Sholto Douglas-Home, of BT's customer communications unit, says that in Britain we spend about four. As prices fall and more services are introduced, "the whole culture of telecommunications is changing dramatically. The growth potential is huge."

BT, to achieve that potential, four weeks ago hired the advertising agency Abbott Mead Vickers (AMV) to prepare a new consumer drive. Armed with another £50 million — a smidgeon of BT's £250 million-a-week revenues — in May, AMV will start telling consumers the joys of chatting on the phone. It will also seek to persuade them to love BT for providing the opportunity. Jeremy Miles, AMV's account director, says: "The point we'll make is that you can get more out of life and relationships by using BT."

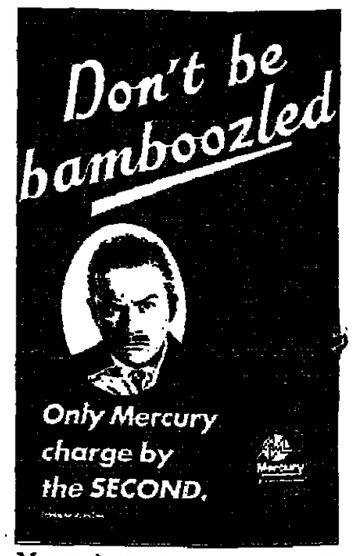
Naturally, given the marketing game, Mercury hopes to cream off the new type of customer that AMV creates. Next week, a new TV campaign from Mercury announces YourCall, an offer to consumers who regularly phone up to five long-distance numbers. By pre-identifying these numbers to Mercury, they can get a 5 per cent discount on each call.

For marketing people, this is a dream. With its tiny share, Mercury realises that anybody attracted to the scheme will almost certainly be a former BT customer. And he or she will almost certainly tell family and friends. Christine Holgate, Mercury's consumer marketing manager, comments: "Word-of-mouth marketing is much stronger than pure advertising. Our customers are our best ambassadors."

Added bonus: Mercury will be attracting the very person whose habits BT is spending a fortune to encourage. "We don't," says Flint Wood, "want people who leave their phone in a windy hall. We are targeting people who like to run their personal lives by phone."

So as BT begins to queer Mercury's pricing pitch (the average price of a call over the past ten years is down by 40 per cent), Mercury puts BT's call-stimulation campaigns in its sights. And the war of words gets hotter. BT's charging practices, says Flint Wood, show how different its attitudes to customers are. "We charge people fairly and honestly."

ALAN MITCHELL



Mercury's message: you can trust us

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 071 481 1066

MEDIA, SALES & MARKETING

FAX: 071 481 9313

SOPEXA

Sopexa is the international marketing agency for French food and drink with 34 offices worldwide. Sopexa UK Ltd, known as Food and Wine from France, is the largest and most successful office in the network. Our portfolio has grown from 27 to 45 clients in two years which includes some of the most prestigious names in food and drink. We are now in the position to offer two people the opportunity to join a dynamic and enthusiastic team with an affinity for all things French.

PRODUCT GROUP MANAGER (PGM)

Responsible for a wide range of wine accounts, the ideal candidate would have:
★ excellent product marketing skills, account handling experience and knowledge of the wines and spirits industry
★ first class presentation and communication skills and a hands on approach to promotions and marketing
★ excellent coordination and team building skills
★ fluency (spoken and written) in French as this position involves regular travel to France.
The candidate should be educated to degree level and ideally have the WSET diploma.

PROMOTIONS MANAGER (PM)

Responsible for the fruit and vegetable sector, the ideal candidate would:
★ have a minimum of two years' experience of promoting in the grocery market
★ have good communication, negotiation and presentation skills
★ be able to work well under pressure and be highly organised
★ be fluent in French, computer literate and numerate.
Relevant qualifications such as the ISP Diploma would be an advantage.

Send your CV, stating current salary and quoting PGM or PM (as applicable) to:
SOPEXA UK LTD, Nuffield House, 41-46 Piccadilly, London W1V 9AJ before the closing date of 15 April 1994

Due to exciting expansion plans The Times Supplements are seeking an experienced

Senior Advertisement Sales Executive

Responsible for developing new business

If you have a proven track record, are articulate and have excellent negotiating skills, particularly with large companies and advertising agencies, this newly created position offers you an excellent opportunity to develop your professional talents.

The Times Supplements publish three specialist weekly journals embracing the world of education and literature. All are market *leaders and offer a total readership not far short* of one million AB adults.

If you feel you have the entrepreneurial attitude and ability to sell across the three titles to large corporate companies and their agents, write to me John Ladbrook, Group Advertisement Director, Admiral House, 66-68 East Smithfield, London E1 9XY, with details of your career and any other information you think relevant. Ideally you will be aged 28-35 and if you are the right applicant you will be offered a starting salary of around £20,000, the use of a company car, BUPA membership and other benefits associated with a large international organisation.

SALES CONSULTANTS OTE £25/£50K

We are a national group and market leaders in our field. We require specialist Sales Executives, 30/55 years of age, who need to earn a minimum of £25K p.a. and would relish the opportunity to join our top achievers earning around £50K p.a.

Our executives work continuously with selected Estate Agents, Health Centres, Schools, Colleges and Golf Courses throughout the UK, for 2/3 weeks at a time. During the last 20 years we have built an unrivalled reputation for reliability and performance. Our open-ended commission scheme has excellent bonus features and is available on an equal opportunity basis. Sales professionals of integrity and ability should ring- NORMAN HAMPEL 0255 783234 (24 HOURS)

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANTS

..specialising in the permanent generation of cash from receivables, payables and related information technology systems, through expansive practice in EC (London HQ), has openings in its UK operations for five self-motivated high powered sales agents to be appointed regionally to augment UK business development. Earnings potential on a performance related basis is substantial.

Similar opportunities exist in Italy, Spain, France, Germany and the Benelux for applicants who are fluent in one of these languages.

Applicants should: be self-starters; have positive track record selling financial services or sophisticated software; have own office facility with PC, fax & telephone; be numerate; Aged 30-55 (Male or Female). Send CV by fax to 071 821 9251 or by post to P O Box 953 London SW1V 2HZ (all responses will be acknowledged) to arrange early interview at the London HQ in Trafalgar Square.

THE Sun TODAY NEWS OF THE WORLD

Have you got what it takes to work for the newspaper with the highest circulation in the English speaking world?

Are you talented enough for Britain's most popular daily newspaper?

Do you have the skills to contribute towards the UK's fastest growing national newspaper?

If the answer is yes, then News Group Newspapers would like to hear from you now!

News Group Newspapers, publishers of The Sun, The News of the World and Today, are currently recruiting Advertising Sales Executives, both trainee and experienced, to work in our highly successful Classified Telephone Sales Department in London. This is an exciting opportunity to join the best sales team in the UK.

EXPERIENCED ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVES

OTE £22,000 (basic salary + commission)

You will have a minimum of 1 year telephone sales experience, preferably selling Classified Advertising on a local or national newspaper. You will have a proven track record with strong cold calling ability.

ADVERTISING SALES TRAINEE

OTE £17,000 (Basic salary + commission)

You will be determined, resilient, articulate and confident, keen to take up the challenge of selling Classified Advertising on the three News Group Newspaper titles. You will need intelligence, self motivation and a good team spirit to thrive in this demanding job. We provide excellent training and good working conditions.

If your skills match our needs call Lisa Brace, Classified Advertisement Manager on 071 782 7453

INTERNATIONAL SALES PRE-PRESS SYSTEMS

ATEX

Surrey Attractive Package + Car & Benefits

Atex Publishing Systems is an international market leader in pre-press systems. Following their acquisition by a European consortium in 1992 they now lead the field in migration to 4th generation platforms and systems integration.

Expansion of International Business Markets and a "customer led" philosophy has created the need to appoint an International Sales Professional.

The Job
- World-wide sales
- Target Markets
  Eastern Europe
  Africa
  Middle East
  Asia
- Distributor/Customer Sales
- Reporting to VP International Sales

The Candidate
- Aged 30 – 40
- Demonstrable track record
- Capital Sales/Total Solutions
- Knowledge of UNIX, Networks and RDBMS
- Languages – commercial fluency, preferably Spanish
- Knowledge of Pre-Press Market desirable

Send your CV to: Christopher Fry, K W Selection, Suite 5, 140 Park Lane, London, W1Y 3AA, or alternatively fax your CV to 071 355 1521.

KW SELECTION

A Knight Wendling Company

OVERSEAS JOBS EXPRESS

Tel: 0273 440220

MORE JOBS ● MORE CHOICE ● MORE OFTEN

The newspaper with the BIGGEST selection of worldwide vacancies

Professional - Technical - Contract - Working Holidays - Trade - Skilled and Unskilled

Published every 2 weeks. Just £18 for 3 months!

Payment by cheque (no CUE), P.O. or 24 hour credit card line 0273 454522. Or for FREE information send large SAE or 2 x 25p stamps to

OVERSEAS JOBS EXPRESS TS, PO BOX 22, Brighton BN1 8HX

BRITAIN'S NO 1 FOR JOBS ABROAD

MARKETING SERVICES MANAGER

Min £30,000 + CAR

Prestigious professional firm offers fabulous opportunity for marketing information specialists to head up 2 teams involved in wide range of marketing tasks. Ability to develop/improve systems essential as is extensive d/base exp. Ability to read company accounts & be "City aware". Late 20's early 30's.

Call 071-377 6777

Middleton Jeffers
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

FRUSTRATED • DISSATISFIED • REDUNDANT

Do you want the right job in the right organisation now, but don't know how to achieve it?

Mainland Pathfinder, through its unique Partnership Programme has helped senior professionals achieve career success for almost 15 years.

So let us help you with a tailor made pro-active programme, with access to unadvertised vacancies.
Career Development loans available.

17-19 Foley Street, London W1P 7LB.
22 Suffolk Street, Birmingham B1 1LS.

LONDON	071 6318348	BIRMINGHAM	021 6432924
Bristol	0272 308869	Leeds	0532 373970
Cambridge	0223 462244	Manchester	061 8339813
Guildford	0483 503555	Nottingham	0602 484625
High Wycombe	0494 473835	Scotland	0324 714354

MAINLAND PATHFINDER
OPENING DOORS

OVERSEAS EXHIBITIONS

Due to our success in an exciting new market, we need 3/4 more telephone sales people to sell exhibition stands to UK companies wishing to export to Eastern Europe.

Excellent commission and bonuses, experienced or inexperienced, full training given. Based in Central London.

Please telephone 071 321 2929

TELECOMMUNICATIONS
Connect with Graphnet

GRAPHNET is a global telecom solutions company on the cutting edge of the telecommunications industry. We provide a variety of messaging, data communications and network systems integration services around the world. In our London office, our rapid growth has created exceptional opportunities for the following:

MANAGING DIRECTOR

We seek an experienced business development manager to head our expanding London office.

The selected candidate will identify new business opportunities and develop & implement strategies to expand existing account base. You must be results-oriented, be able to work independently and excel in a fast paced environment. Five+ years proven track record of success in sales and 2 yrs of sales management experience required.

SALES ENGINEERS

Support pre and post sales activities in data communications applications and solutions. Hardware support of corporate owned network is required including digital and analog circuits, DSUs/CSUs and LANS. Experience with synchronous and asynchronous protocols desired. Provide new account management, and troubleshoot existing accounts.

We offer a competitive salary + bonus. Please fax/mail resume to: Dept. LT

GRAPHNET Inc. TELECOM SOLUTIONS

329 Alfred Avenue, Teaneck, New Jersey 07666, USA, Fax: (201) 837-5603

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

SALES DIRECTOR

c£40,000 + bonus + Share Options

We seek a sales and marketing professional who is capable of demonstrating their ability to be promoted, within three years, to become a General Manager of a c£25 million business. The business is part of a £150 million manufacturing plc which produces printed packaging. Our client is the UK industry leader in sales and profits because of the calibre of its management, its use of the latest technology and its focus on customers. It is growing both organically and by acquisition.

Obviously we need an outstanding person with a proven track record in sales management. Probably aged up to 40 and ideally a science or technology graduate, with a good honours degree, they will have trained in a top company. Experience of partnership contracts and of managing sales of high volume batch produced technical products into large blue chip customers' manufacturing processes is important. Suitable industries might be fmcg, packaging, labels, textiles, engineering components or other similar situations.

Besides the salary, bonus and options there is an excellent benefits package. Location is Newcastle.

Please reply in strict confidence giving details of experience, age, qualifications and *present salary quoting Ref: 1205/ST. No information will be divulged to our clients* without your permission.

CB-Linnell Limited
7 College Street, Nottingham NG1 5AQ.
SEARCH & SELECTION CONSULTANTS
NOTTINGHAM : LONDON

Divisional Board Appointment

MARKETING DIRECTOR

Market Leading European IT Software & Services plc

Basic: £35-40,000 On Target: £50-60,000 **Midlands**

A strategic career appointment for a dynamic IT services marketeer in UNIX-based solutions.

The company is part of a highly stable, successful and acquisitive £50 million major computing software and services organisation. It markets a prestigious and well regarded range of packaged 4GL accounting, distribution and manufacturing applications. It is now looking to further develop its revenue from accompanying added value services in maintenance, support, training, consultancy, project management and FM.

The requirement is for a strategically thinking marketing management professional, with proven IT software and services product-to-market skills. You must be adroit in constructing and managing effective, visionary marketing plans and influencing sales and operations in their timely and successful delivery. This is a stimulating and very high profile opportunity with excellent prospects for further career progression and potential European involvement.

Personal qualities must include enthusiasm, confidence, analytical thinking and the ability to present a clear and persuasive argument at all levels. In addition, you must possess the incisive management skills to drive, motivate and focus a gifted team. Current knowledge of the software and services market place, gained through working for an IT services supplier in a marketing management role, is a prerequisite. Preferred age range mid 30's to mid 40's.

Applications, which will be treated in the strictest confidence, should be made by forwarding a full CV, stating current salary, to the company's retained adviser, **Jeff Walton**, at the address/fax below, quoting ref. no. **94016**.

INTERFACE

INTERFACE EXECUTIVE RESOURCES LTD
P.O Box 38, Lymm,
Cheshire WA13 0AF
Tel: 0925 754058. Fax: 0925 757131

Sales and Marketing Director

C£55,000 + Car + Bonus/Share Options
Suffolk

In the home furnishings business, quality and value for money often speak for themselves.

For 15 years, our client, a privately owned rapidly growing manufacturer and retailer has grown on the strength of its product offering, building a reputation that is acknowledged both by customers and competitors alike.

With 35 stores across the UK, the company plans to open a further 25 by the end of 1995 ready for flotation in early 1996.

Reporting to the Chief Executive, this new role of Sales and Marketing Director is crucial to the company's future growth. The incumbent will lead and control key areas such as corporate brand strategy, product development, advertising strategy and the local and regional sales management of the stores.

A high calibre graduate, preferably aged mid 30's-40's, you will have an impressive record of achievement in Marketing and Sales, both in a large company and also in a more loosely structured operationally based organisation. Experience in a similarly vertically integrated company and/or in the retail sector would be highly desirable.

With strong personal presence and the ability to motivate and command respect, you will be a natural leader who will make an immediate positive impact on the business.

To apply, please telephone Nick Williams at the number shown below. 10.30-3.30pm on Sunday or 8.30-7.30pm weekdays. Alternatively, C.V.s with full salary details can be sent directly to Ball & Hoolahan, 75-77 Margaret Street, London. W1N 7HB. Telephone 071-323 4041

BALL & HOOLAHAN

THE TIMES TODAY WEDNESDAY MARCH 30 1994

NEWS

Major in new struggle for survival

■ John Major was suffering a severe crisis of confidence in his leadership as a demoralised and disillusioned Conservative Party was forced to fall in behind a retreat in the European Union voting row.

Tory backbenchers from across the party spectrum were openly questioning whether the Prime Minister could survive a serious setback in the European elections in June. Mr Major was felt to have exhausted much of his remaining goodwill by his handling of the dispute ..... **Pages 1, 10, 11, 12, 18, 19**

Norwich Union suspends 800

■ Norwich Union has suspended its 800-strong pension sales force. The unexpected announcement was made after an inspection of the company's paperwork on pension and investment sales by the regulator Lautro ..... **Pages 1, 19, 25**

Child court reform

Children under 14 will be more easily convicted of crimes after the High Court threw out a fundamental common law rule that the prosecution must prove that the child knows right from wrong ..... **Page 2**

Boycott in doubt

The boycott of compulsory testing was in doubt after three out of four primary schools requested papers for new tests for 11-year-olds. Almost 14,000 schools have ordered the papers ..... **Page 7**

Press rights upheld

The Press Complaints Commission has upheld the right of newspapers to adopt a partisan position on major issues of public policy ..... **Page 2**

Death theory rejected

A theory that a surgeon's wife did not die because of an overdose of an anti-cancer drug given by her husband was rejected by the Court of Appeal ..... **Page 6**

Schoolboy killed

A boy of six was killed and eight other children hurt when the minibus in which they were being taken to school was involved in a head-on collision ..... **Page 2**

Touvier remembers

Paul Touvier, the French collaborator with the Nazis, regained his memory and gave an assize court a detailed account of the day 50 years ago when seven Jewish prisoners were chosen for execution ..... **Page 12**

Fears over water

Large areas face water shortages and near permanent hosepipe bans unless water companies act to cut leaks and support widespread installation of meters, it has been claimed ..... **Page 8**

Convoys suspended

Bosnian Serb officials were trying to avert a new crisis with the United Nations after the UN High Commissioner for Refugees suspended all aid convoys to and through Banja Luka ..... **Page 13**

Field dug up

A murder investigation has switched from a house in Gloucester to a village field in Much Marcle, 15 miles away ..... **Page 5**

Clinton bounces back

President Clinton has bounced back from his troubles over Whitewater as his approval ratings soared on the strength of last week's news conference .. **Page 13**

Festival focus

A season of Beethoven is the highlight of this year's Edinburgh Festival, featuring all nine symphonies and the five piano concertos ..... **Page 7**

Johannesburg attack

As tension remained high in central Johannesburg, shots were fired at the ANC headquarters but no one was injured .. **Page 14**

Monster tourist boom for Loch Ness

■ Tourists now have the opportunity to undertake in-depth research in the hunt for the Loch Ness monster. For £68.50 they can make a one-hour dive in a mini-submarine, which will take them to the bottom of the Loch as well as exploring the caves in the steep walls. So far there have been 500 bookings for the trip ..... **Page 6**

JAMES MORGAN



Pupils arriving at Hall Garth School, Middlesbrough, with tributes to Nikki Conroy, who was killed in a classroom on Monday. Page 3

BUSINESS

Coal: British Coal is likely to be worth about £500 million when it it is put up for sale by the Government. The privatisation Bill is expected to move into the Lords after Easter ..... **Page 25**

Rover: Co-operation between the Rover Group and Honda of Japan is set to continue on important models despite Rover's acquisition by BMW of Germany ..... **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE Index fell 6.1 points to close at 3123.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 80.2 to 79.8 after a fall from $1.4964 to $1.4922 and from DM2.5030 to DM2.4893 ..... **Page 28**

SPORT

Cricket: England were frustrated on the fourth day of the third Test when they could claim only one West Indies wicket in the morning and the afternoon session was lost to rain ..... **Page 48**

Racing: The Jockey Club has unveiled the starting team and technology for the Martell Grand National at Aintree on April 9 aimed at preventing a repeat of last year's fiasco ..... **Page 45**

Football: Graham Taylor said that it was his intention to take Wolverhampton Wanderers, of whom he has become manager, into the first division play-offs ..... **Page 46**

FEATURES

Unhappy landings: If arriving at Europe's favoured transatlantic springboard is a nightmare for a Londoner, what must Heathrow be like for foreigners? ..... **Page 16**

Policy decision: Women politicians not only have to do their job, they also have to look freshly feminine, demure and fragrant throughout the day, says Alice Thomson ..... **Page 17**

Rolling start: Radio 5 Live went on air on Monday. The diary of controller Jenny Abramsky tells of the birth pangs ..... **Page 22**

Bands on the run: Most of Britain's top symphony orchestras are technically insolvent, according to their chief executives. Their debts run into millions of pounds; and at least one of them is expected to fold this year ..... **Page 33**

Festive form guide: A selective guide to British summer festivals takes in the new music of Aldeburgh, the exotic foreign dramas of Brighton, and the colossal Edinburgh programme ..... **Page 35**

Choice Chaucer: A new touring version of *The Canterbury Tales* puts the emphasis firmly on the raucous stories ..... **Page 34**

PEOPLE IN THE TIMES



Dame Shirley Porter, who is expected to appear before a public enquiry into alleged vote-rigging by Westminster Council **Page 6**



Linda Sunderland, a divorced mother of three, who says: "Until the CSA arrived, women like me were almost invisible" **Page 8**



Silvio Berlusconi, declared the winner in Italy's general election, immediately vowed to form an authoritative government **Pages 1, 15**

THE TIMES TOMORROW

The Beatles and the fifth man

■ A new film tells the curious tale of Stuart Sutcliffe, who strummed bass guitar with the Beatles in their wild Hamburg days

Under the spell of Castro

■ Why is Fidel Castro such a magical person? Hugh Thomas reviews Robert E. Quirk's methodical, serious and readable biography

After the drama, the hype

■ Would you like to climb Mount Kinabalu? Travel companies are queuing up to capitalise on the dramatic rescue of the British soldiers

TV LISTINGS

Three Dubliners arrive in London without work in *O Mary This London* (BBC2, 9pm) ..... **Page 47**

OPINION

The lost leader

The issue is not Europe. It is leadership, competence and judgment. If the deal on EC voting was really the best that Mr Major could win, he should not have put his personal authority behind the fight for a better one ..... **Page 19**

Forza Berlusconi

Berlusconi should reach outside the confines of his Freedom Alliance to form a government based on talent ..... **Page 19**

Classroom security

The killing of Nikki Conroy was a horror which will have alarmed every parent ..... **Page 19**

LETTERS

ALAN COREN

The Rev. A.W. Lumsden crept into our scripture class and drew on the blackboard what appeared to be a bathtap (blue) and a plum (pink). After 40 years, it seems our education system has succeeded only in replacing the bathtap with the Mars bar ..... **Page 18**

SIMON JENKINS

The aim of upping the number of votes needed to block a directive is that, if we are all to be ruined by the Americans and the Asians, we must all be ruined together **Page 18**

Sir Roy Griffiths, National Health Service reformer; **Norman Jackson, VC**; **Dame Whina Cooper**, New Zealand President of Maori Land Rights; **Dack Rambo**, actor ..... **Page 21**

OBITUARIES

The Archbishop of Canterbury and other church leaders make a plea for the local elections to be free of racism ..... **Page 19**

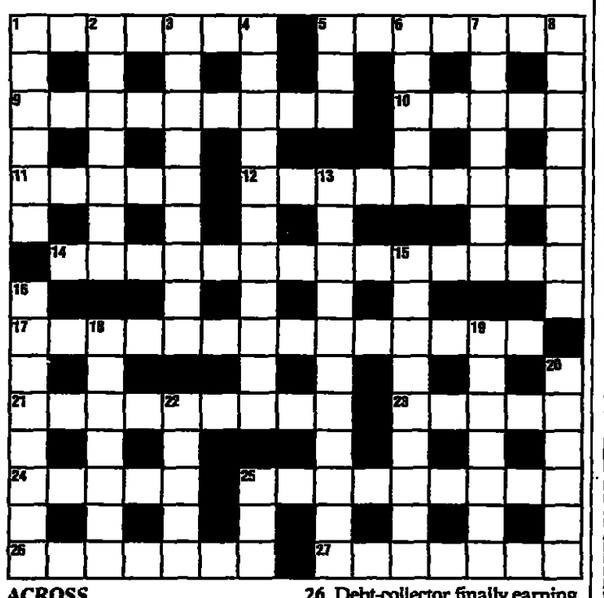
LETTERS

Rolling back the nuclear arms race on the subcontinent will require India and Pakistan to address their insecurity — *The New York Times*

The USA is allowing wages for unskilled work to decline with the market. Most European countries are trying to maintain [job] security and incomes

— *The Washington Post*

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,503



ACROSS

1 City elegant in the past (7).
5 Discern changes in reverse (7).
9 Fancy quires first sang in high voices (4-5).
10 Characters in the lead in amateur golf relish exciting end to match (5).
11 About to get the measure of one of the strings (5).
12 A casual worker with long hair — Eve, perhaps (9).
14 Chelsea leader left backs right in position for going through a gap in the wall (14).
17 Celebrate what you can do with a thing (4,1,5,2,2).
21 Irregular fighter is a thug, they say (9).
23 Vanadium found in blue block (5).
24 Ring back about one shrub (5).
25 Pan made Circe sit round one (9).
26 Debt-collector finally earning a long time in prison (7).
27 With reddish hair greying patchily (7).

DOWN

1 Business propped up by a large amount in foreign currency (6).
2 I am moving up, up to college — it's a sudden whim (7).
3 Modern make-up employed by girl who married a son of Zeus? (9).
4 Public man, Henry, poorly but past the worst (4,3,4).
5 To be found in Andorra — mountain sheep (3).
6 Suffer the consequences when vehicles overturn (5).
7 Is artist, the Spanish one, a foreigner? (7).
8 Lining up bandage (8).
13 Promotion of partnerships for the manufacture of lights (11).
15 A party to put restrictions on worship (9).
16 Complacent leader of gentlemen directed what gentlemen did (8).
18 In love, married serviceman subverted foreign government (7).
19 Bill is singing well (7).
20 Lethargic agent responsible for safeguarding general (6).
22 Material gathered by policemen on governor . . . (5).
25 . . . is liable to result in prison (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,502

W	I	N	C	E		B	R	I	D	L	E	W	A	Y
I		O		N		R		N		A		H		A
S	A	B	O	T	E	U	R	S		U	N	I	O	N
E		E		R		M		T		N		T		K
C	O	L	O	U	R	B	L	I	N	D	N	E	S	S
R		S		Y		N		E		B				
A	S	T	U	T	E		S	C	O	R	N	E	R	S
C	O			S		T				A		P		
K	I	L	O	W	A	T	T		S	C	A	M	P	I
		E		H		I		A		H			L	
P	E	R	F	E	C	T	I	N	T	E	R	V	A	L
U		A		E		C		G		S		I		I
T	U	N	E	D		H	A	L	F	T	R	A	C	K
U		C		L		E		E		E		N		I
P	R	E	T	E	N	D	E	R		R	O	D	I	N

Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Somrs	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Colwyn Bay, Clwyd 15C (59F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries & Galloway 0.62in; highest sunshine: Lerwick 5.1hr.

GO TO THE WEST COUNTRY FOR YOUR HEALTH...
Taunton-based WPA's range, value and service have made them one of Britain's biggest specialist health insurers.
Make sure with
WPA
Health Insurance
Ring WPA Direct
FREECALL 0500 41 42 43

FORECAST

General: England and Wales will be mainly cloudy with some patchy rain or drizzle, but it should brighten in central and eastern England. More general rain will spread from the west this evening to all but East Anglia and southeast England. Scotland will be mainly cloudy with light rain or drizzle in places, although parts of central and northeast Scotland will start bright. Northern Ireland will be cloudy with patchy rain or drizzle this morning and more general rain later. This evening should become clearer with scattered showers. A windy day with gales in west and north. Temperatures similar to yesterday.

London, SE England, E Anglia: Cloudy, misty. Patchy drizzle. Becoming brighter, but a cloudy evening. Wind S moderate, becoming fresh to strong. Max 14C (57F).

Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Central N, NE England: Cloudy, misty. Patchy drizzle. Becoming brighter, but rain from the west this evening. Wind S moderate, becoming fresh to strong. Max 12C (54F).

Channel Is: Cloudy and misty. Mainly dry. Wind S moderate, becoming fresh to strong. Max 13C (55F).

SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, IoM, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, NW Scotland: Generally cloudy and misty. Patchy rain or drizzle in places. More general rain from the west later. Wind S strong to gale. Max 12C (54F).

Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Some brighter spells at first. Becoming cloudy with patchy light rain or drizzle. More general rain from the west this evening. Wind mainly S strong to gale. Max 7-10C (45-50F).

N Ireland: Cloudy. Patchy drizzle. Rain this afternoon. Becoming clearer with showers. Wind S strong to gale, becoming SW. Max 10C (50F).

Outlook: Windy, rain or showers.

AROUND BRITAIN

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; r=rain; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; du=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.8	0.04	11	52	c	Liverpool	1.3	0.04	14	57	b
Anglesey	-	0.11	10	50	fg	London	0.1	0.01	12	54	c
Aspatria	1.2	0.07	11	52	r	Lowestoft	-	0.09	12	54	sh
Aviemore	1.1	0.16	10	50	sh	Manchester	0.2	0.02	14	57	r
Belfast	0.2	0.13	12	54	r	Margate	0.9	0.01	12	54	c
Birmingham	0.3	0.20	13	55	r	Minehead	1.0	0.30	14	57	c
Bognor R	-	0.03	11	52	d	Morecambe	-	0.09	10	50	r
Bournem'th	-	0.22	11	52	r	Newcastle	4.1	0.01	13	55	r
Bristol	-	0.22	13	55	d	Norwich	1.1	0.17	12	54	r
Buxton	-	0.21	11	52	r	Nottingham	-	0.12	12	54	r
Cardiff	-	0.30	11	52	r	Penzance	0.3	0.07	13	55	d
Clacton	0.3	0.03	11	52	d	Plymouth	0.2	0.13	11	52	d
Cleethorpes	X					Poole	-	0.25	12	54	r
Colwyn Bay	3.1	0.08	15	59	b	Ross-o-wye	0.1	0.17	13	55	r
Cromer	X	0.07	12	54	sh	Ryde	-	0.08	11	52	d
Dunbar	X					Salcombe	-	0.28	12	54	d
Eastbourne	-	0.02	11	52	d	Sandown	-	0.06	12	54	d
Edinburgh	1.8	0.04	13	55	sh	Saunton Snd	0.6	0.18	12	54	c
Eskdalemuir	0.1	0.62	7	45	r	Scarboro'	1.0	0.03	13	55	c
Exmouth	0.1	0.23	13	55	d	Scilly Isles	0.3	0.02	12	54	d
Falmouth	X	0.08	12	54	d	Shanklin	X	0.10	11	52	r
Folkestone	-	0.02	10	50	r	Skegness	-	0.32	12	54	r
Glasgow	0.7	0.22	11	52	r	Southend	X				
Guernsey	-	0.06	13	55	c	Southport	1.8	0.06	14	57	b
Hastings	-	0.05	10	50	d	Southsea	-	0.04	11	52	d
Hayling I.	X					Stornoway	0.7	0.23	9	48	r
Herne Bay	0.8	-	12	54	c	Swanage	-	0.26	11	52	d
Hove	-	0.02	10	50	d	Teignmouth	0.1	0.16	13	55	r
Hunstanton	-	0.17	12	54	r	Tenby	-	0.44	12	54	r
Isle of Man	1.1	0.04	11	52	c	Thurso	1.1	0.33	10	50	r
Jersey	-	0.01	12	54	f	Torquay	0.1	0.22	13	55	sh
Kinloss	2.5	0.01	12	54	b	Tynemouth	3.5	-	13	55	b
Leeds	0.3	0.04	14	57	c	Ventnor	-	0.06	10	50	fg
Lerwick	5.1	0.31	7	45	r	West-s-mare	-	X	13	55	r
Leuchars	1.3	0.09	12	54	r	Weymouth	-	0.17	11	52	c
Littlehmptn	-	0.03	10	50	d						

These are Monday's figures

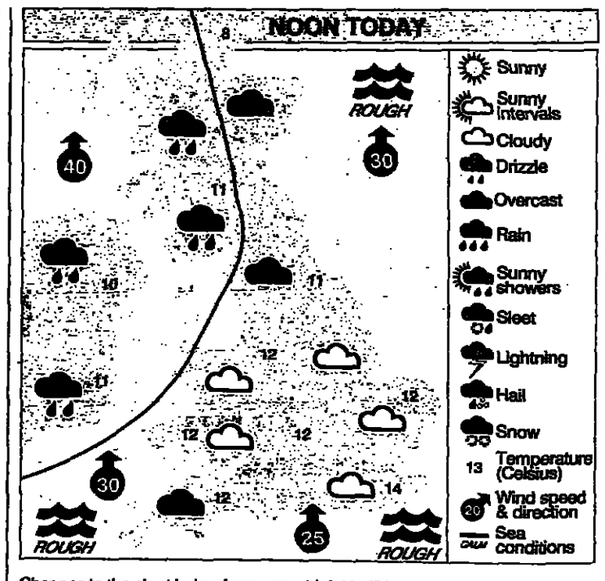
ABROAD

Ajaccio	17	63	s	C'phagn	11	52	r	Majorca	20	68	s
Alicante	20	68	r	Corfu	16	61	s	Malaga	18	64	r
Alex'dria	24	75	r	Dublin	10	50	s	Malta	18	64	r
Algiers	22	72	s	Dubrovnik	15	59	s	Melb'rne	27	81	s
Amst'dm	13	55	s	Faro	19	66	s	Miami	30	86	c
Athens	12	54	c	Florence	18	64	s	Milan	16	61	s
Bahrain	27	81	s	Frankfurt	16	61	c	Montreal	3	37	c
Bangkok	34	93	r	Funchal	17	63	c	Moscow	-3	27	r
Barbados	30	86	r	Geneva	18	64	r	Munich	14	57	c
Barcelona	19	66	s	Gibraltar	19	64	c	Nairobi	28	79	r
Beirut	20	68	r	Helsinki	2	36	r	Naples	18	68	s
Belgrade	12	54	s	Hong K	28	79	r	N Delhi	32	90	s
Berlin	13	55	c	Innsbruck	13	55	r	N York	10	50	c
Bermuda	23	73	r	Istanbul	8	46	r	Nice	16	61	s
Biarritz	18	64	s	Jeddah	32	90	s	Oslo	6	43	r
Borde'x	17	63	r	Jo'burg	24	75	r	Paris	16	61	c
Brussels	13	55	c	L Palmas	20	68	s	Peking	13	55	s
Budapest	12	54	s	La Tquet	11	52	r	Perth	24	75	s
B Aires	21	70	r	Lisbon	18	64	s	Prague	12	54	r
Cairo	25	77	c	Locarno	16	61	r	Reykjavik	1	34	c
Cape Tn	26	78	s	L Angels	16	61	r	Rhodes	15	59	s
Chicago	7	45	c	Luxembg	12	54	r	Rio de J	30	86	r
Ch'church	15	59	c	Luxor	34	93	s	Riyadh	28	84	s
Cologne	14	57	c	Madrid	20	68	s	Rome	17	63	s

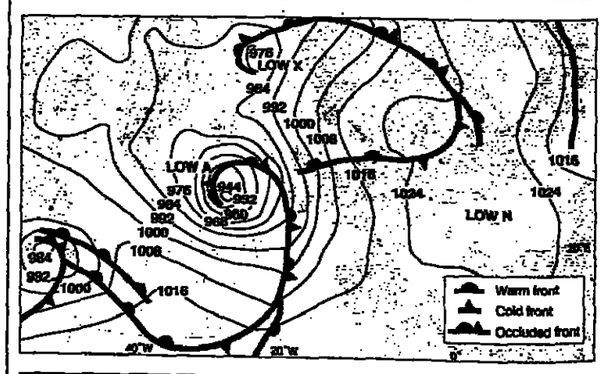
Salzburg	10	50	c								
S Fr'sco	14	57	f								
Santiago	25	77	s								
Seoul	12	54	f								
Sing'por	31	88	r								
St'kholm	1	34	sl								
Strasb'rg	16	61	c								
Sydney	22	72	c								
Tangier	19	66	r								
Tel Aviv	23	73	r								
Tenerife	20	68	r								
Tokyo	15	59	c								
Toronto	5	41	c								
Tunis	21	70	s								
Valencia	19	66	s								
Vanc'ver	13	55	c								
Venice	16	59	s								
Vienna	11	52	c								
Warsaw	9	48	s								
Wash'ton	12	54	r								
Wel'ngton	14	57	c								
Zurich	15	59	r								

X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: high N will be slow-moving and decline. Low A will move NE with little change of pressure. Low X will move NE and fill



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.25	7.74	3.53	7.54	Liverpool	12.45	10.0	1.08	10.0
Aberdeen	2.55	4.41	3.15	4.56	Lowestoft	11 14	2.45	11.33	2.87
Avonmouth	9.01	14 18	9.22	13 88	Margate	1.28	5.10	2 03	4.88
Belfast	12.30	3.46	12.68	3.66	Milford Haven	8 02	7.51	8.23	7.33
Cardiff	8.46	13.07	9.07	12.80	Newquay	6.53	7.5	7.14	7.3
Devonport	7.45	5.7	8 05	5.6	Oban	7.18	4.0	7.39	3.9
Dover	12.25	7 04	12.48	6.79	Penzance	6.47	5.8	7.08	5.7
Falmouth	7.15	5.5	7.35	5.4	Portland	8.39	2.2	9.03	2.1
Glasgow	2.34	4.7	2.48	5.1	Portsmouth	12.54	5 0	1.18	4.9
Harwich	1.25	4.25	1.50	4.10	Shoreham	12.40	6.83	1.01	6.62
Holyhead	—	—	12.05	5.95	Southampton	12.17	4.82	12.40	4.68
Hull	7 59	7.90	8.17	8.05	Swansea	8.03	10.20	8.24	9.96
Ilfracombe	7 48	9.92	8.09	9 89	Tees	5 23	5.66	5 42	5.73
King's Lynn	8.06	6.9	8.23	7.2	Wilton-on-Nze	1 17	4.51	1 42	4.33
Leith	4.14	5.80	4.36	5.92					

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.41 am
Sun sets: 7.30 pm
Moon sets: 8.00 am
Moon rises: n/a

London 7.30 pm to 6.41 am
Bristol 7.40 pm to 6.51 am
Edinburgh 7.46 pm to 6.50 am
Manchester 7.40 pm to 6.48 am
Penzance 7.51 pm to 7.04 am

Last quarter April 3

©TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED. 1994. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd at 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN, telephone 071-782 5000 and at Knowsley Park Industrial Estate, Kidding Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HN, telephone 051-546 2000. Wednesday, March 30, 1994. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.



ARTS 33-35

Guide to the best British festivals of the summer



HOMES 41

Who would lose under proposals for the homeless?



SPORT 42-48

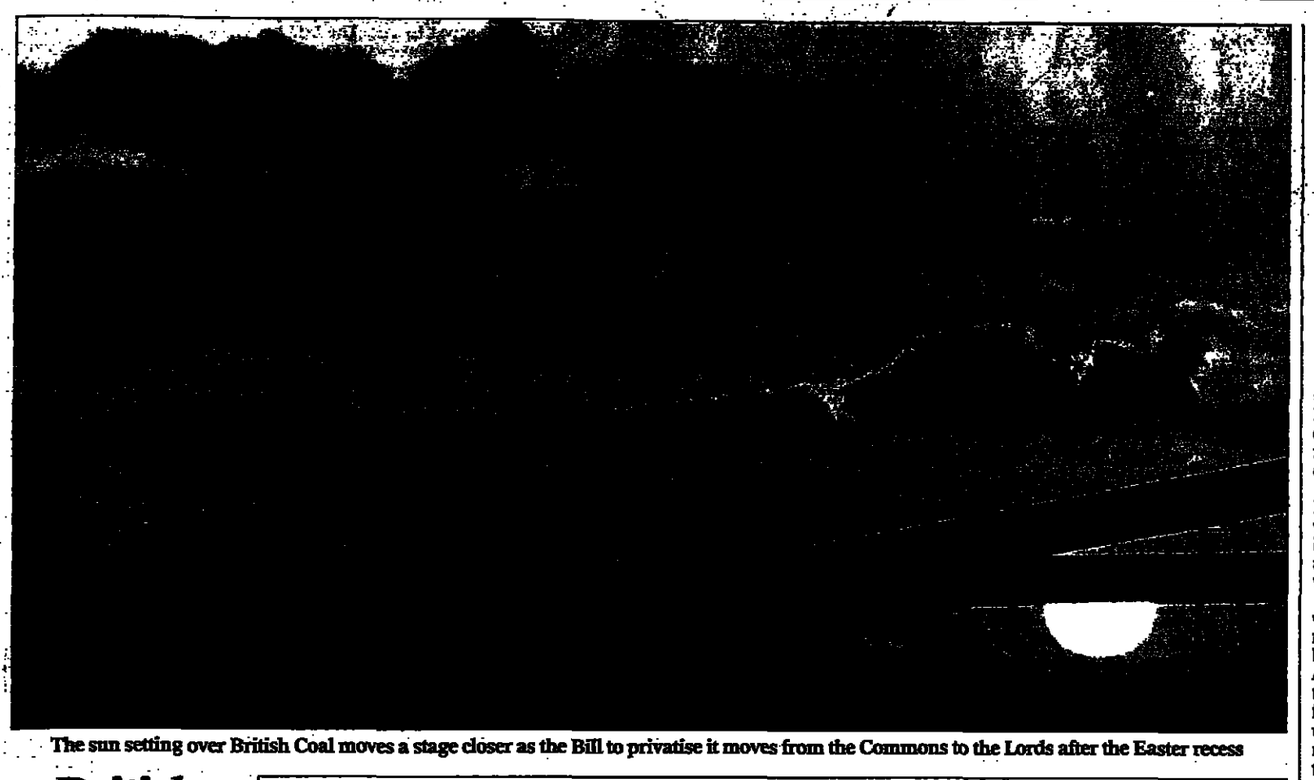
On the trail of sport's holy grails

END OF AN UNDER-AGE EXCUSE

Law Report 39

THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY MARCH 30 1994



The sun setting over British Coal moves a stage closer as the Bill to privatise it moves from the Commons to the Lords after the Easter recess

British Coal's value put at £500m

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITISH Coal is likely to be worth about £500 million when it it is put up for sale by the Government. The Government's Bill to privatise British Coal is expected to move into the Lords when Parliament reassembles after Easter, having now completed its main Commons stages.

The assessment was made by a leading coal privatisation specialist yesterday, as industry leaders heard that more pits will have to close "immediately" because of "chronic" over-capacity.

Charles Kernot, mining analyst at Credit Lyonnais Laing and the author of a widely regarded study of BC's privatisation prospects, stressed that while £500 million was a reasonable estimate of BC's worth, what price the corporation or its individual parts would be sold at would largely depend on what price buyers were prepared to pay.

Speaking in London at a McCloskey Coal Information conference, Mr Kernot valued BC's total assets at £135 million, with a further £300 million in property and about £36 million each in coal products and fuel distribution applications.

The conference also heard a new warning of further likely pit closures. Gerard McCloskey, a leading analyst, said: "Unless the Government grasps the nettle of closures and does so immediately, they will find themselves in control of an industry with chronic overcapacity — with cheap coal available from hefty stocks, from the growing non-core private sector as well as from imports."

He forecast that by 1998, the supply of coal would be 58.5 million tonnes, while the demand for coal would amount to 49 million, leading to an excess of 9.5 million tonnes.

Both electricity supply and non-power markets for coal would continue to decline, and Mr McCloskey said that by the turn of the century, the number of core BC mines might total no more than three from the current 17.

Norwich suspends pensions sales force

BY ROBERT MILLER

■ Lautro is taking a much tougher stance with its members. Its training and testing programmes include knowledge, all-round competence and giving good advice

NORWICH Union yesterday suspended its 800-strong pensions sales force after an investigation by Lautro, the regulaior for life companies and unit trust groups.

The announcement came as the UK's third-largest insurer unveiled £131 million pre-tax profits in 1993, compared with last time's £23 million loss.

The sales representatives were suspended for a month, with effect from yesterday, while they undergo a "vigorous training and reassessment programme". The suspended staff account for 10 per cent of Norwich Union's life and pensions new business and generate between £8 million and £10 million of business a month.

The action does not cover independent financial advisers or the Leeds Permanent Building Society, which sells Norwich Union products. The suspended salesmen are normally paid by commission, but during the retraining period they will be given an allowance. Some of them will leave as a result of the re-testing.

Allan Bridgewater, group chief executive, said: "During a periodic inspection visit last year, Lautro found that we were not overseeing training and competence testing in accordance with its requirements. We have worked closely with Lautro in setting up this programme."

Philip Scott, general manager of UK life and pensions, added: "This step reflects our determination to get everything right. When the programme is completed and we are back on the road, our sales team will be operating to the highest 1994 standards."

This is not the first time Norwich Union has run into trouble with Lautro. In May 1992, it was fined £50,000 for placing an unsuitable advertisement — the first such penalty levied by Lautro.

The Lautro action over Norwich Union's training is part of a tougher stance with members in general and of selling practices in particular. Since April last year, Lautro has insisted that all new sales staff and representatives must be properly trained before they start to sell investment products to the public. Lautro also demanded that sales staff taken on before April 1993 be re-tested by December last year.

A Lautro spokesman said: "The training and testing programmes we insist on are not just about knowledge. They are about all-round competence and giving good advice."

Another Lautro member, Refuge Assurance, is currently testing its entire workforce of 2,200 people. Terry Black, a Refuge director, commented: "We had a Lautro periodic inspection visit last November, but we don't discuss the details of the subsequent report with anyone. We are re-testing our sales force and if anyone fails we will provide suitable re-training."

David Nisbet, an insurance analyst at broker NatWest Securities, said: "The Lautro action over Norwich Union is an example of how the regulator is trying to step-up the compliance procedures and standards in general. I'm quite sure other companies will have to go through a similar exercise. It is a clear signal that Lautro is determined to enforce better standards. This may be short-term pain for Norwich Union but in the long term it will mean that the company is writing a better quality of business and consumers are receiving better advice."

The cost of the re-training programme will be taken out of a £173 million contingency reserve that includes a 1993 provision for costs arising from any mis-selling of pension policies by Norwich Union company representatives.

Pensions debate, page 1



Scott: "determination"

Sturge names face calls for £540m

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

MORE than a thousand names whose assets support syndicates managed by Sturge Holdings, one of the largest Lloyd's agencies, are being asked to pay up an estimated £240 million this summer.

A further £300 million will be called later. Details of the cash calls were released yesterday by Sturge, which also announced its expected loss for the 1991 year of account.

Sturge names are expected to be hit by 1991 pure year losses of about £220 million, equal to a loss of 16 per cent of the syndicates' capacities. This contrasts with an estimated loss for the market as a whole of between 8.5 per cent and 11 per cent, which equates to a market-wide loss of up to £1.25 billion, compared with the market's capacity of £11.38 billion.

On top of this comes further losses for open years. Sturge drew attention to the severity of these losses, blaming them on errors and omissions insurance (E&O), personal stop loss (PSL) claims, pollution and asbestosis-related liabilities. The agency said that the failure of the Lloyd's settlement offer meant that syndicates writing E&O and PSL business had increased reserves substantially.

Sturge syndicate 210, its former flagship syndicate, along with some of Sturge's marine syndicates were involved in these risks. Syndicate 210's loss for 1991 is expected to be between £38 million and £49 million, compared with syndicate's capacity of £223 million.

The agency's second largest syndicate, marine syndicate 206, is expected to make a loss of up to £16.5 million for 1991, compared with a capacity of £164.6 million. The syndicates expected to be hit by the biggest percentage losses are syndicate 1005, with a loss of up to 45 per cent of 1991 capacity of £22.2 million, and syndicate 122, with a loss of up to 40 per cent of 1991 capacity of £60.4 million.

Of the syndicates trading this year, the best 1991 result was achieved by syndicate 37 with an expected profit of up to 12.5 per cent on capacity of £24 million. Of the 13 syndicates currently trading, ten made profits for 1991.

BMW signals Honda deal with Rover will continue

FROM ROSS TIEMAN IN MUNICH

CO-OPERATION between Rover and Honda is set to continue on present and future models, despite BMW's take-over of the British group.

Bernd Pischetsrieder, the BMW chairman, said: "We will achieve a solution that both the employees and Rover and Honda in Great Britain will find very satisfactory."

The German carmaker, which infuriated Rover's Japanese collaborator when it bought Rover from British Aerospace for £800 million this month, now appears confident a new agreement for future collaboration can be reached. BMW is understood to have been approached by three rival European car groups, including Peugeot of France, offering to supply replacement engines should Honda walk away from its £400 million a year contract to supply Rover.

It expects to increase investment at Rover, and BMW's German component suppliers will be forced to compete against highly competitive British rivals for business across the whole group, he said.

Herr Pischetsrieder said "technology co-operation on Rover 200, 400 and 600 should be continued, also beyond existing model ranges in future". He also said the issue of the 20 per cent cross shareholdings between Rover and Honda's British manufacturing operation would be swopped back on terms agreed between Rover and Honda in 1990.

To secure the development of the new vehicles it seeks, particularly in the small car sector, BMW executives intend to increase Rover's investment plan. More jobs are likely to be created, initially in research and development, but also in production areas as output rises.

Rover's research and development spend, at £200 million a year, is only about 5 per cent of its £4.3 billion turnover, against an industry average of 7 per cent and BMW's 7.6 per cent last year. To lift Rover's investment to BMW levels would imply spending at least £100 million a year more on R&D. "We are braced for this," said Volker Doppelfeld, BMW's finance director.

For the larger Rover 800, which will be due for replacement soon, Honda had "signalled they are reluctant to continue co-operations", he said. But a replacement Rover 800 would be built "provided we assess whether we might go away from front-wheel drive technology to standard (rear-wheel) drive that would share technology with BMW".

BMW component purchases from British suppliers have risen from £20 million to £50 million in the past three years. Herr Pischetsrieder said: "The British component suppliers have increased their quality and productivity by leaps and bounds and German suppliers that we have today will have to face up to this competition."

BMW directors also said they would seek to introduce more flexible working practices. The company hoped to double the number of part-time employees from the present 1,600 this year. The move would help cut BMW's labour costs, among the highest of any carmaker.

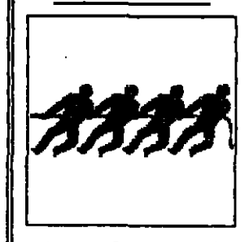
Herr Pischetsrieder declined to say when Rover might begin making a positive contribution of BMW profits.

Pennington, page 27
BMW drive, page 29

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

PARTY WALL

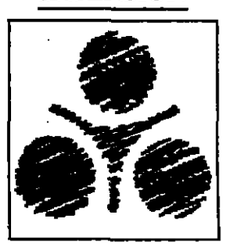


A wave of mergers and consolidations will be forced upon the building industry says the chairman of Taylor Woodrow
Page 28, Tempus 29

OPEN DOORS

The Office of Telecommunications warned the industry of a new drive to increase competition
Page 26

EXTENSION



Littlewoods, Britain's biggest private company, is seeking acquisitions overseas, notably the Far East
Page 31

BUILDING UP

Next had a good year on the high streets and in catalogues, raising profits by no less than 88 per cent
Page 27, Tempus 29

WHITTINGDALE
investing for the best
NET RETURNS



Andrew Caddick photographed by Graham Morris

Whittingdale are recognised as one of the leading UK specialist managers of gilt-edged securities, with over £1,700 million entrusted to our award winning team.

WHITTINGDALE
GILT-EDGED EXPERTS

Whittingdale Unit Trust Management Limited is a Member of LAUTRO and IMRO
Whittingdale Limited is a Member of IMRO

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 3123.4 -6.1

DOW JONES 3727.23 -35.12

Midday trading figure

THE POUND

Dm 2.4893 -0.0137

US $ 1.4922 -0.0042

GOLD

BRENT CRUDE

6pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 28; SHARE PRICES PAGE 30

Oftel warns industry of drive for competition

■ Talks with BT and other companies should lead to action on competition including the publication of standard prices for interconnection, Oftel says

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S telecommunications regulator yesterday warned the industry it would face a new drive this year to increase competition.

The Oftel warning reflects a strong desire by Don Cruickshank, director-general, to speed up the process of increasing competition.

In the regulatory body's annual report for 1993, published yesterday, Mr Cruickshank said he was "determined that 1994 will be a watershed when increased competition will be much closer to a reality in the market".

Oftel made clear it was aware its own regulatory procedures might themselves form a barrier to development and innovation, and pledged to explore new ways of streamlining its own "lengthy and costly" procedures.

Mercury, the principal minority competitor in Britain, is bringing a legal action against Oftel over its judgment on Mercury's interconnection with BT's network. Mercury said it hoped to see progress this year on several fronts, including interconnection, accounting separation and directory enquiries.

Mr Cruickshank signalled other areas where Oftel would be taking action on competition, including:

☐ Interconnection. Oftel is holding workshops — the latest was this week — to try to resolve problems with companies connecting to BT's network, and hopes talks with BT and others will lead to the publication of standard prices for interconnection;

☐ Barriers to entry. Oftel, warning it would be "actively" attacking entry barriers this year, specified areas it was examining, including BT's approval regime for telephone apparatus, the resale market of added-value lines from an operator and BT's own competitive practices and licence compliance standards;

☐ Anti-competitive behaviour. Oftel will be examining the issue of price notifications, and considering their effect on competitors and competition;

☐ Large business customers. Preliminary findings of Oftel research indicate that large business customers feel that because of regulatory restrictions, BT is being held back from offering what they want — in particular, low prices for bulk buyers of services.

Mr Cruickshank said he wanted to see real choice — "by which I mean there should be three or more service providers knocking at the door offering a full range of services at a tariff structure of their choice".

New entrants were not yet delivering the range of choice Oftel was looking for, and Mr Cruickshank said he was considering setting new entry terms to reduce barriers for new operators.

He welcomed competition in the mobile market — which grew by 43 per cent last year to about 2 million users. With the advent of Mercury One-2-One, "this had the look of a truly competitive market place". He welcomed, too, BT's real cash price cuts amounting to £500 million for 1993-94 and said there was now welcome evidence of BT listening more closely to its customers.

BT said yesterday it welcomed competition, and was discussing ways of increasing access to its network and standard pricing lists for interconnection with Oftel.

ALAN WELLER



Andy Barr, left, chief executive of AHH, and Lord King, non-executive chairman, hope plans for a listing will take off

Uninsured drivers add to costs

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

THE number of people driving without insurance in Britain has soared in the past three years, forcing premiums up for those who do insure, according to Mark Boléat, director-general of the Association of British Insurers.

In the ABI's first quarterly statistics and research review, Mr Boléat said the cost of meeting claims for drivers who are not insured or are untraceable rose from £14 million in 1987 to an estimated £85 million for 1993.

Average premiums for comprehensive cover rose 9.9 per cent a year between 1987 and 1992, and for non-comprehensive cover by 11.2 per cent. In 1992, the average premium for comprehensive cover was £281 and for non-comprehensive cover £173. Between 1987 and 1992 the cost of claims rose 81 per cent and premiums by 68 per cent.

US debates Tokyo trade concessions

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

THE Clinton Administration is considering a package of trade concessions offered by Japan as a goodwill gesture to deter US trade sanctions.

The Administration said the response to Japan's market-opening initiative was still being considered by government agencies. An announcement could be made today.

The official added that the Administration's assessment would crucially depend on whether Japan's offer is seen as moving towards one of the key US demands — the acceptance of numerical targets for certain American imports. America's insistence on numerical targets has strengthened on news of Japan's growing trade surplus with the United States, which last year stood at $59 billion.

As part of its package of trade concessions, the Japanese government took limited measures to boost the sale of foreign-made cars in Japan, and to open its government-procurement and insurance markets. The Japanese also promised to relax regulations in telecommunications, retailing, pharmaceuticals and food. But action to bring the country's bureaucratic procedures of product inspection into line with international standards are to be postponed until the summer.

The Administration is likely to welcome certain aspects of Japan's initiative, but is unlikely to endorse the whole package, since it still falls short of America's controversial request for quantifiable and measurable import targets. The US is not expected to compromise on this aspect until later in the negotiations.

The Japanese action follows the breakdown of US-Japanese talks on a framework trade deal last month and President Clinton's decision to reinstate the Super 301 trade legislation, which allows the US to impose unilateral sanctions against a trading partner suspected of unfair trading practices.

Pennington, page 27

Lord King lands seat at AHH

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

LORD King of Wartnaby, president of British Airways, is taking the helm at Aerostructures Hamble Holdings, the manufacturer of components and assemblies for civil and military aircraft, which plans to seek a stock market listing this year.

AHH is based at Hamble near Southampton, Hampshire, and employs about 1,600 people. It is likely to be capitalised at between £70 million and £80 million when it is floated in the late summer or early autumn. Smith New Court is broker to the proposed issue.

The company was formed after a £47 million management buyout from British Aerospace two years ago and most of the management has been recruited from Rover Group. Flotation proceeds will be used to finance development and repay borrowings.

The group's customers include Boeing, McDonnell Douglas, Northrop and Satic.Operating profit grew 14 per cent in 1993 to £8 million.

Jaguar to build new model in Midlands

JAGUAR, the luxury carmaker, is to build its new sports model, the X100, at plants in Birmingham and Coventry, safeguarding 900 jobs. Up to 80 per cent of the cars will be exported to the US, Japan and Germany and other key overseas markets when production starts in 1996.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, a lifelong Jaguar driver, said the decision was a boost for the motor industry and a vote of confidence in British manufacturing and engineering. "It is another success story in the renaissance of the British motor industry. Britain is now the pre-eminent motor manufacturing country in Europe," he said. The DTI has given Jaguar a grant of £9.4 million. The company said a number of overseas sites had been considered for the new project but it selected Britain because its existing components supply base and the offer of a "generous package" of assistance from the DTI and councils in Birmingham and Coventry.

Rotork justifies award

ROTORK, the specialist engineering group named as company of the year in the Coopers & Lybrand PLC Awards earlier this month, earned record profits of £12.92 million before tax in 1993, a rise of 22.9 per cent. Earnings rose to 9.4p a share from an adjusted 7.6p, and the dividend is increased to 4.25p a share for the year from 3.72p, with a 2.5p final. The shares rose 8p to 183p. Tom Eassie, chief executive, said results were enhanced by a strong perfomance from Rotork Actuation, the group's core business. Although 1994 is expected to be tougher, the company was confident of making further progress, he said.

Waterford turnround

WATERFORD Wedgwood, the Irish luxury goods group, returned to profit in 1993 after four years of substantial losses, earning a pre-tax profit of Ir£10.1 million (£9.8 million) last year (Ir£17 million loss). In the four years from 1989, it lost a total Ir£62.5 million. The result was achieved after sharply improved operating profit at Waterford Crystal, static profits at Wedgwood, reduced interest charges and the elimination of restructuring costs. Group sales of Ir£319 million were 17 per cent higher. Earnings per share were Ir1.27p, against a Ir2.69p loss. No dividend is proposed. Gearing was reduced from 54 to 41 per cent.

Proudfoot in the red

PROUDFOOT, the management consultancy chaired by Lord Stevens of Ludgate, accompanied a dive into the red with plans to call on shareholders for £9.6 million of fresh funds, through a two-for-seven rights issue at 60p a share. The proceeds will be used to support the group's planned growth, complete its restructuring, stengthen the capital base and improve working capital. A hefty £18.3 million loss on discontinued operations saw Proudfoot slump to a pre-tax loss of £10.9 million (£24.5 million profit) in the year to December 31. The dividend is slashed to 3.5p (12p), with a reduced final payout of 1.5p (6p).

Estates cuts loss to £4m

ESTATES & General, the property group, reduced losses from £26.4 million to £4.5 million in 1993, on lower provisions against trading properties. The highly geared company managed to cut borrowings £15 million to £75 million, while an 8 per cent rise in the value of the portfolio added £5 million to reserves. The expiry of an interest-rate hedge on £30 million of debt in 1995 is expected to bring interest costs in line with rental income, which totalled £7.6 million last year. The 1993 deficit included provisions of £2.2 million (£13 million) against trading properties, mainly due to a property development in Palma, Mallorca.

Foreign indifference to cheap UK labour

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government's emphasis on low labour costs in Britain is unimportant to most foreign-owned companies, a new survey suggests.

In its rejection of the social protocol of the European Union-forming Maastricht Treaty and in advertisements it has placed in countries outside the UK, the Government has stressed the attraction to inward investors of low labour costs, with ministers suggesting this would give Britain a competitive advantage over its EU partners.

But a survey published yesterday of foreign-owned companies operating in the UK showed that cheap labour is rated as unimportant by the large majority of inward investors. Some inward investor specialists are extremely sceptical about the findings of such surveys, suggesting that foreign-owned companies' actual practices differ markedly from the replies they might give the survey questionnaires.

But the survey carried out by the Harris polling company for KPMG, the management consultant, showed only 3 per cent of foreign-owned companies operating in the UK thought low labour costs would be a factor in inward investors' location decisions.

As many as 58 per cent thought the large and valued market, both Europe generally, and the UK in particular, was a more important factor.

The survey — claimed to be the largest among foreign-owned firms in the UK, covering 10 per cent of the 8,900 involved — showed 90 per cent of those questioned were positive about UK workforce productivity, the same about overall labour relations in the UK and 88 per cent about workforce adaptability.

Cash call for cancer treatment

BY OUR CITY STAFF

BRITISH Bio-technology, the emerging pharmaceuticals company that came to the market in July 1992, is seeking an initial £46 million by way of a rights issue to help fund the development of its flagship cancer treatment. A further £47.6 million could be raised by January 1996, if shareholders exercise warrants issued as part of the rights issue.

The issue of units comprising ordinary shares and warrants is equivalent to a one-for-three rights issue at 400p a share and ¾ of a warrant. The shares rose 5p to 470p, up 45p from the flotation price.

Misys issue to fund purchase

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

MISYS, the fast-growing computer software and services group, is expanding its operations with the proposed acquisition of Kapiti, a supplier of computer systems and services to the banking and finance sectors, for £40 million in cash and shares.

The £25 million cash element for the Kapiti purchase will be funded by way of a two-for-13 rights issue, at 425p. The rights is fully underwritten by Baring Brothers, with Cazenove as broker to the issue.

Kapiti, which is owned largely by institutional investors and management, made a pre-tax profit of £3.2 million in 1993, on gross sales of £29.5 million. The unquoted company supplies complex software packages to a quality international market and had net cash of £4.6 million. About 55 per cent of Kapiti's systems orders in 1993 were derived from emerging markets.

Misys shares firmed 2p to 513p.

THE WORLD'S MOST ACCLAIMED NOTEBOOK RANGE!

IBM THINKPAD

Best Notebook and Portable PC 1993 — PC COMPUTING (US)
Sub-Notebook of the Year 1993 — MOBILE OFFICE
Editor's Choice April 1994 — PC MAGAZINE (UK)
Readers' Choice 1993 — PC WORLD (US)

PLUS OVER A DOZEN OTHER AWARDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

LOTUS ORGANIZER FREE WITH EVERY THINKPAD



With awards and acclamations both sides of the Atlantic, the IBM ThinkPad is a true world-beater. Don't just take the word of the computer press for it - the ThinkPad recently came top in a UK customer satisfaction study.*

What makes the ThinkPad such a winner? Is it the ergonomic design, durable build quality, incredible battery life or the ingenious TrackPoint II - the mouse you can use without your hands leaving the keyboard. According to the survey, all of these were important factors. But now there's another special reason for buying a ThinkPad - P&P prices that start from just £1099 (exc VAT) for the mono version and a remarkable £1499 (exc VAT) for sparkling colour.

*1993 Portable Computer Satisfaction Survey conducted by JD Power & Associates

IBM

THINKPAD 350

• i486SL 25MHz processor with 8Kb internal cache • 4Mb RAM (upgradeable to 20Mb) • 125Mb Hard Disk • 3.5" 1.44Mb floppy drive • PCMCIA Type II slot • 9.6" LCD VGA Mono screen (64 greyscales) 640x480 resolution • Parallel, Serial, VGA, keyboard, mouse ports • Internal modem slot • NiMH battery (2.6hrs continuous use, 9.3hrs with full power management) • MS-DOS 6.0, Windows 3.1 and Lotus Organizer 1.0 pre-loaded • Weight 5.3lbs • Dimension (mm) 297x210x48

1 Year IBM Warranty

P&P PRICE FROM JUST £1099
quote order no IBM460 £1291.33 inc VAT
SAVE £521 ON RRP

THINKPAD 250MB OPTION
P&P PRICE £1299 SAVE £801 ON RRP
quote order no IBM461 £1526.33 inc VAT

THINKPAD 350C - PORTABLE COLOUR
with 9.2" LCD VGA screen (256 colours) • 125Mb Hard Disk • PCMCIA Type II slot • up to 6hrs battery life • Lotus Organizer 1.0 pre-loaded
P&P PRICE £1499 SAVE £571 ON RRP
quote order no IBM462 £1761.33 inc VAT

THINKPAD 250MB OPTION
P&P PRICE £1799 SAVE £761 ON RRP
quote order no IBM463 £2113.83 inc VAT

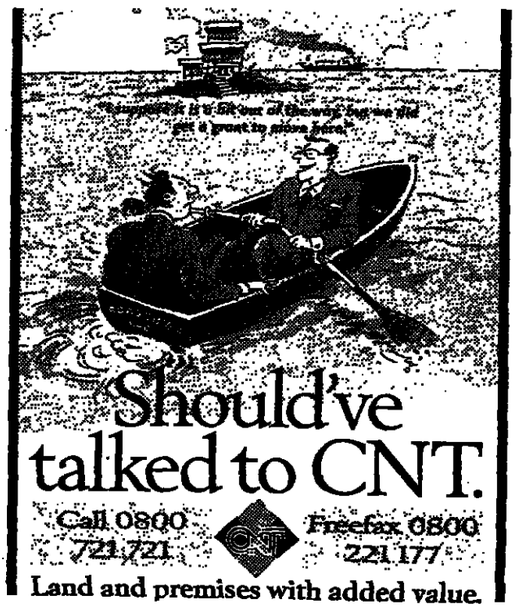
P&P finance PLUS
FOR EASY PAYMENT TERMS PLEASE CALL FOR DETAILS
Written details available on request. All applications subject to status. P&P Finance Plus is available to business users only.

* All offers are strictly subject to availability * 24 hour delivery (£15 excluding VAT) subject to credit and availability * All prices are subject to change without notice, E&OE etc * Goods are not sold on a trial basis * Subject to our standard terms and conditions (available on request) * While stocks last * P&P Direct is a trading division of P&P Corporate Systems Limited which is part of the P&P plc group of companies.

ORDER NOW!
CALL P&P SOUTH 071 265 4570
CALL P&P NORTH 0706 832832
Quote PP143A when you place your order

P&P Direct, Todd Hall Road, Carrs Industrial Estate, Haslingden, Rossendale, Lancashire BB4 5HH Reg.No.2280230 VAT Reg. No. 458 0957 14

P&P



Should've talked to CNT.

Call 0800 721 721 — Freefax 0800 221 177

Land and premises with added value.



Is our craftsmanship priceless? Unfortunately not.

The leather for our shoes is carefully cut by hand. The seams are hand stitched.
Even the soles are hand embellished. You may believe such craftsmanship is priceless. In which case, you'll think our prices very reasonable.
You'll find Cheaney Shoes at the more exclusive retailers such as Harrods, Selfridges, Austin Reed, Harvey Nichols and Liberty.

PLEASE SEND ME A COPY OF YOUR FREE 1994 CATALOGUE AND FULL STOCKIST LIST T3
NAME
ADDRESS

JOSEPH CHEANEY & SONS LTD., HARDTON ROAD, DESBOROUGH, KETTERING, NORTHANTS NN14 2LL. TELEPHONE 0536 760881

CHEANEY
SHOEMAKERS SINCE 1886

LIBERATE YOUR PENSION
IF YOU WANT TO USE YOUR PENSION FUNDS AS YOU SEE FIT WITH NO RESTRICTIONS
PHONE 0634-282798 NOW
MINIMUM FUNDS REQUIRED £250,000

☐ Brand marketing is the key to Rover's future ☐ Sir David meets Alan Jones ☐ Japan is still squirming

Bavarian Motors Work

☐ THEY'RE smooth, glossy, and have to perform competently at high speed. BMW's management increasingly resembles its products as it embarks on the company's biggest expansion yet in Britain and America. The takeover of Rover leaves the men from Munich with a difficult balancing act. The parent company needs to keep its reputation as a high-quality medium-volume German manufacturer, while at the same time, beginning to build BMW 3-series cars in America and taking over the multi-model Rover operation, which virtually doubles its manufacturing operations.

If small was beautiful, will bigger be better? The answer, reassuringly for the future of jobs at Longbridge and Cowley, is probably yes. BMW sees its business in terms of brands. The parent brand image — German, high quality, high performance — is not going to be sullied by cross-over operations with Rover. No joint showrooms, for example, except perhaps in America, where BMW and Land Rover could see sales and servicing under one roof in some areas.

The Land Rover and Range Rover brands have attracted Munich for years, and were clearly a major factor in the takeover. Rover's stable of famous car brands, including Wolseley, Riley and MG, seems to appeal strongly to Bernd Pischetsrieder and his colleagues as luxury British brands comparable to Dunhill, Burberry and Harrods. Much as Britons may squirm to see the wood-panelled Rover sold as a part of "Olde Englande", that is the image that resonates on the Continent and which BMW intends to exploit. Beyond the engineering, BMW is a brands company just as much as Guinness or Grand Metropolitan. Not for them the cheap badge engineering of the old British Leyland. There will be development money — lots of it.

Inevitably doubts remain. The men from Munich are adamant that the BMW 3, 5, and 7 series range fits perfectly with the Rover 200, 400, 600, and 800. But when pressed, they cannot hide their enthusiasm for the smaller cars, which do not overlap with BMW products, and fall fully to dispel fears for the future of the 600 and 800 models. Talks with Honda over the licensing arrangements are still continuing. BMW says fiercely that there will be no changes in the Honda agreements. But what of Honda? The jilted partner is always an angry adversary.

BMW emphasises that the two car groups will reflect their respective cultures, and emphasises lessons learned from the BMW/Rolls-Royce joint venture in aero engines. But there, as with Rover, there is no doubt that BMW is in the driving seat. There is as yet no proof that Rover will really be managed independently.

Coffee but no After Eights

☐ AS *Pennington* indicated yesterday, an eleventh hour get together between protagonists Sir David Lees, chairman of GKN, and Alan Jones, his opposite number at Westland, was imminent. Word has it that the tête-à-tête, arranged at Westland's Carlton Gardens eyrie after lunch yesterday, was amicable but relatively short. Parting handshakes had nothing to do with any agreement over Westland's future, but neither party will reveal how the conversation ebbed and flowed.

PENNINGTON



All of which leaves much to the imagination:

Jones: "A glass of something, David?"

Sir David: "Coffee would be splendid thanks, Alan."

Jones: "I gather you found our defence document disappointing?"

Sir David: "Well, nothing special on the profit front. The £35 million was in line with forecasts. Good job you had that land sale to fall back on."

Jones: "Well, the market seemed quite pleased. Our special dividend went down rather well with the institutions."

Sir David: "Funny you should say that. We find the institutions a bit sceptical about the AOI litigation . . . uncertain about the Egyptian courts and suchlike. Mind you, that's something we might be prepared to address."

Jones: "Yes. I presume an interesting Easter egg is on the way."

Sir David: "Interesting, yes. But not necessarily as many fillings as your friends at UBS are calling for."

Jones: "Surely not a mere chocolate shell?"

Sir David: "You've had that, Alan. It's a £500 million chocolate shell worth 290p per share. There may be one or two fillings but don't expect anything vulgar."

Jones: "The problem is that we and UBS, as you happen to mention them, see 360p-400p as, well, ballpark area."

Sir David: "So you may, Alan. But the market doesn't. After all, UBS said buy at 325p and, give or take, that's still the price."

Silence. Broken by Sir David: "Let's face it Alan. You've got one order for the EH 101, the Canadian order has gone, you're still negotiating in Italy and the RAF order is, well, up in the air."

Jones: "Poppycock. Between you and I we are about to reveal a link up with McDonnell Douglas to offer the Americans a variant to the EH101. We could be making £100 million by 1998-99."

Sir David: "Or not".

After a few more pleasantries, handshakes were exchanged. Expect GKN to sweeten its AOI proposals and revise its offer to between 320p-330p.

Please don't shoot Mr President

☐ JUST imagine it. Politicians from another country tell the Government that it must control private companies' purchasing and sales policies, dismantle health and planning regulations, boost public works, give no favour to domestic jobs in public contracts, cut income taxes permanently and restructure the tax system. No, this is nothing to do with qualified majority voting. It is Uncle Sam literally laying down the law to Japan, to cut his $60 billion deficit with the number two national economy.

Germany would face similar demands were it not a member of the European Union, which the French have taught to say "Non". Perhaps Japan should apply for membership, joining other distant islands. For now, it feels it must keep bowing and squirming to protect its farmers, hoping Morihiro Hosokawa has promised Bill Clinton just enough over the phone to stop Washington launching its trade gunboat, USS Super 301.

In a face-saving formula of which John Major would be proud, Mr Hosokawa insists he can pledge no specific targets. The bureaucrats of Miti doubtless had no influence on the five top motor manufacturers, which have all just announced numerical targets for higher procurement of American components.

On past form, yesterday's "Outline of External Economic Reform Measures" will have little impact on the overall bilateral trade balance. Recovery in Japan's economy, of which some statistical signs are finally appearing, will do much more. But American (and European) pressure can affect specifics. Japan is ending the formal cartel ceiling on car exports to America because they are already much lower, displaced by local Japanese-owned car plants. In Europe, the quota is due to last until 1999 and will stay for ever if some have their way. Britain should look forward to the day it is similarly abolished, made redundant by output from Europe's own off-shore island.

Next fights recession with 88% profits rise

By Susan Gilchrist

NEXT shrugged off recession and fierce competition on the high street to produce an 88 per cent rise in profits and a doubled dividend.

Pre-tax profits soared to £73.5 million from £38.9 million in the year to January 31, fuelled by strong growth in its core retail chain. A final dividend of 4p (2p) brings the total for the year to 5.5p (2.5p).

Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale, chairman, said Next brands had been strengthened by the decision to sell one range of merchandise through its high street stores and the Next Directory, its catalogue. This had enhanced buying margins, improved sourcing and reduced markdowns.

The 300-store Next chain lifted profits to £44.1 million (£24.4 million), reflecting continued strong growth in sales/sq ft, up from £253 to £411 in the past three years. Lord Wolfson said the group was unlikely to open many stores, but selling space would increase through the expansion of existing outlets. Performance was relatively consistent across womenswear, menswear and childrenswear. Attention would focus on revamping the interiors product range, which accounts for about 3 per cent of sales.

Next Directory boosted profits to £8.5 million (£6.4 million) because of higher retention of customers. The average number of customers rose from 419,000 to 446,000. Club 24, the credit business, also had a good year, with profits of £6.9 million (£5 million).

The start-up costs associated with the opening of a store in Boston, Massachusetts, produced a loss of £1.8 million. A second store is planned in Washington and the group expects to open four more by next January. David Jones, chief executive, said the group would monitor the experiment in America in the next 18 months before deciding to go ahead with a larger chain.

Trading has started well this year, with store sales about 18 per cent ahead.



Jones: watching US sales

Tempus, page 29

Dividend passed at Alexon

By Our City Staff

THE new management at Alexon yesterday admitted that recovery at the troubled womenswear group will take longer than expected.

The group unveiled pre-tax losses of £12 million in the year to January 29, only marginally lower than the £12.2 million loss in the previous 12 months. Shareholders, who received a dividend payment of 3p a share last year, will get nothing this time.

John Sadler, who took over last April after the enforced departure of the old management, said the board had reassessed the time for recovery since the first half. "Sales of current season stock have undoubtedly been affected both by the economic climate and by the sheer volume of older stock which we have sold at discounted prices. We now recognise the recovery will take longer than expected."

However, he said the group had made good progress against its stated objectives of reducing debt, stocks and overheads. Debt fell from £23 million to £10.7 million bringing gearing below 50 per cent. Stock levels have been reduced from £34.7 million to £23.6 million due to tighter buying controls and more aggressive mark-downs on slow selling merchandise.

Blenheim chief cautious

By Martin Waller
Deputy City Editor

BLENHEIM Group, the exhibitions organiser that has grown rapidly through acquisition, is retrenching.

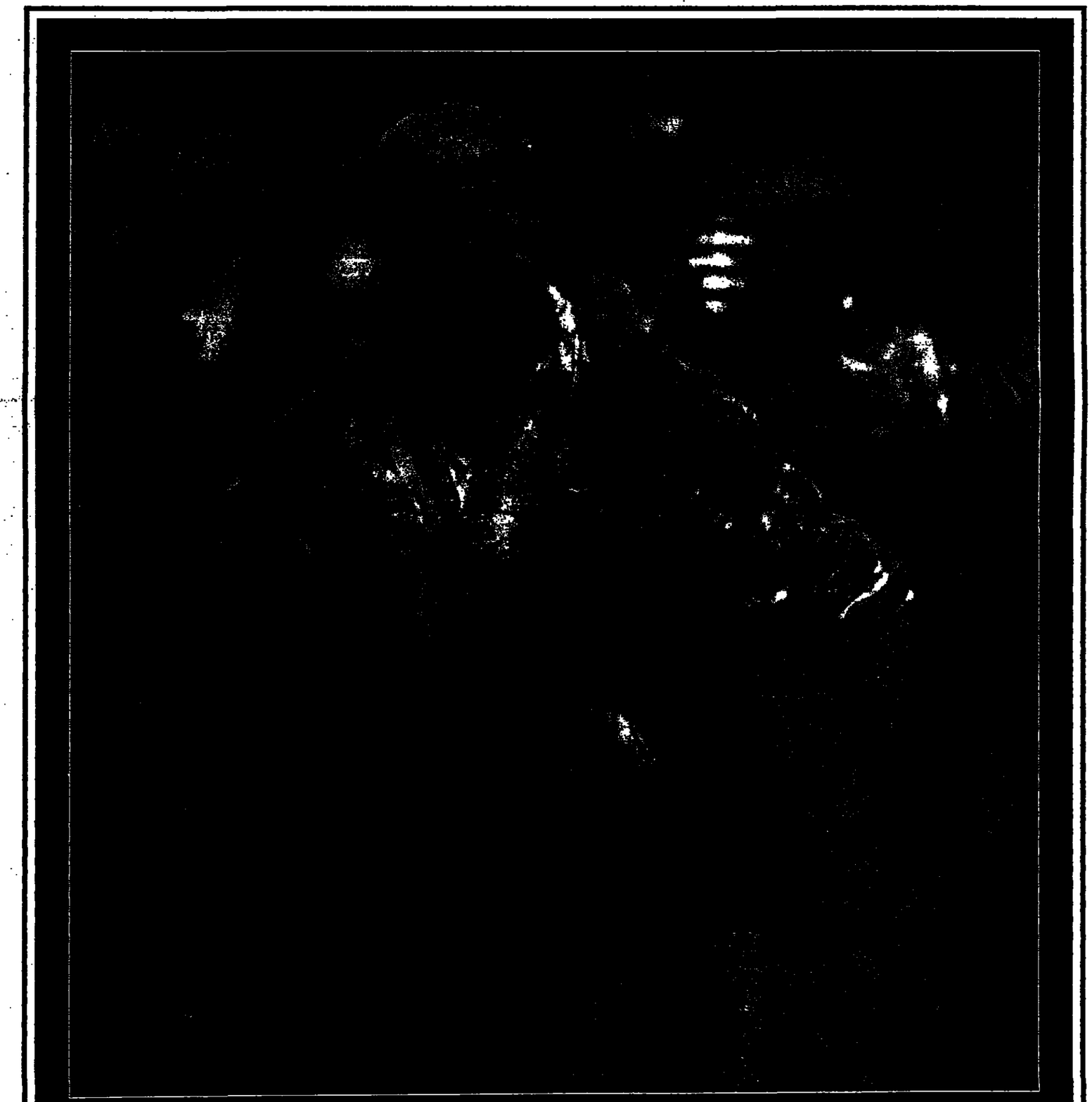
A cost-cutting programme introduced by Staffan Svenby, managing director, last November, will result in job losses, while unprofitable exhibitions will be closed and the launch programme for new shows this year is to be halved.

Blenheim made pre-tax profits of £45.2 million in 1993, up from £32 million for the 16 months to end-December 1992 and £15.5 million for the year to end-December 1992.

Neville Buch, chairman, said the figures were at a lower level than expectations. He delivered a cautious message. Early signs of revival in the US and UK were not followed through into the second half, while there was a sharp deterioration in France. The British portfolio of exhibitions included a high proportion of small events, most of which were severely affected by recession.

Blenheim is paying a 6.85p final dividend, making a 10.25p total in line with the forecast at the time of the convertible preference issue in June, out of earnings up 14 per cent to 29.4p a share.

Tempus, page 29



EXERCISING WELL. COVERING GROUND. GETTING THE RESULT.
IT'S LED ONE COMPANY TO EMPLOY OVER 150 FUND MANAGERS. WHOSE IN-DEPTH KNOWLEDGE PROVIDES THE BEST INFORMED DECISIONS FOR PRIVATE INVESTORS AND PENSION FUNDS.

WHEN DIGGING DEEPER IS WHAT IT TAKES

MERCURY ASSET MANAGEMENT

MERCURY ASSET MANAGEMENT plc BRITAIN'S LEADING INVESTMENT HOUSE A MEMBER OF IMRO

Foreign investors expected to cause turbulence for BAe

BRITISH Aerospace is expected to run into turbulence around the Square Mile during the next few days after the company confirmed that the number of foreign holders of the shares had exceeded the 29.5 per cent threshold imposed by the Government.

Foreign investors in breach of the limit will be forced to sell their shares and have their cheques returned on a last-in-first-out basis. As a result market-makers are bracing themselves for a sell-off in the next few days which is likely to depress the price.

Rolls-Royce, down 6p at 175p, also has a limit imposed on the number of shares foreign investors can hold which has been breached on several occasions in the past.

STOCK MARKET

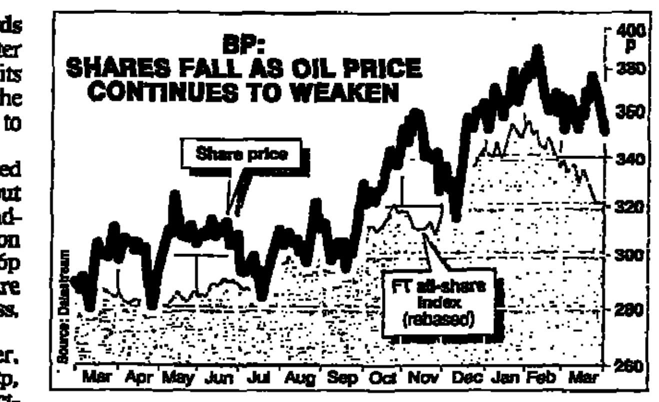
This is the first time it has happened to BAe.

The rest of the equity market saw an early 15-point lead wiped out as the bond market again turned easier. The FT-SE 100 index ended 6.1 down at 3,123.4 despite an opening fall of 24 points on Wall Street. Turnover was boosted to 673 million by a large number of bed-and-breakfast transactions aimed at making a trading loss before the financial year-end next week.

Standard Chartered fell 17p to £10.46 as stockbroker Credit Lyonnais Laing decided to downgrade its profit expectations. But **Lloyds Bank** added 6p at 568p after stockbroker UBS raised its pre-tax profit estimate for the current year by £50 million to £1.37 billion.

A stock overhang depressed **Boots**, down 6p at 519p, but **Reed International** responded to a buy recommendation from Goldman Sachs, up 16p at 851p. Stockbroker Hoare Govett was a buyer of **Bass**, 9p better at 533p.

Next, the fashion retailer, ended 7p better at 232p, cheered by better than expected full-year figures showing pre-tax profits almost 90 per cent ahead at £73.5 million and the final dividend doubled to 4p. The spring/summer season has started well with sales continuing to grow at a similar rate to last year.



Oil shares reacted badly to the continued derioration in the crude price on world markets after the failure of Opec to agree production quotas at the weekend. BP fell 10p to 356p accompanied by the likes of **Pittencrief** 1lp to 399p, **Enterpric** 3p to 404p and **Aran Engery** ¾p to 25½p.

Taylor Woodrow celebrated a return to the black with an early rise of 5p to 158p but subsided to end unchanged at 153p. Pre-tax profits of £30.2 million were recorded last year compared with a deficit of £94.5 million in 1992.

British Bio-Technology is raising £46 million by way of a one-for-three rights issue at 400p with warrants attached. The money will be used to develop its batimastat cancer treatment and other products undergoing clinical trials. The shares reposnded with a rise of 5p to 470p.

Misys, up 2p at 513p, is also raising £25 million via a two-for-13 rights issue at 425p. The money will help finance the £40 million acquisition of Kapiti, the computer systems group. **Pentos** slipped 1½p to 29½p on learning of further losses and a four-for-three rights issue at 25p to raise £25 million.

Alexon, the fashion retailer, dropped 13p to 47p after reporting further pre-tax losses of £12 million against £12.2 million and warning that the recovery will take longer than expected. But **Metsec** was rewarded with a rise of 3p to 125p after returning to the black.

Shares in **Domnick Hunter** made a healthy stock market debut, reaching 224p, against a 200p placing price. **Coal Investments** also returned from suspension 1p higher at 77p before touching 88p. The price eventually settled at 85p, a rise of 8p. The group has agreed to lease two more pits from British Coal.

□ **GILT-EDGED**: An early £½ lead was lost as European bond markets turned easier. The June series of the Long Gilt fell £¾ to £105[11]/[16] as 90,000 contracts were completed. The short end bore the brunt of losses in the cash market with Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 down £[13]/[16] at £107[9]/[16], while in longs Treasury 9 per cent 2012 was £[23]/[32] off at £109[29]/[32].

□ **WALL STREET**: Shares in New York fell across most sectors in what analysts said was a function of rising interest rates. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 35.12 points at midday to 3727.23.

MICHAEL CLARK

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND

US $ .... 1.4922 (-0.0042)
German mark .... 2.4893 (-0.0137)
Exchange index .... 79.8 (-0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 .... 3123.4 (-6.1)
Dow Jones .... 3727.23 (-35.12)*
Nikkei Avg .... 19709.74 (-232.05)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 5¼%
3-month Interbank 5⅛-5¼%
US Federal Funds .... 3[7]/[16]%*
3-month Treas Bills 3.52-3.51%*
Long Bond 7.05%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4855*	£:$	1.4880
$:DM	1.6741*	£:DM	2.4871
$:SWfr	1.4244*	£:SWfr	2.1159
$:Ffr	5.7305*	£:Ffr	8.5010
$:Yen	103.45*	£:Yen	153.86
£:SDR	1.0632	£:ECU	1.2934

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 387.90 .... PM 386.80
Close 386.80-387.30
New York:
Comex 386.05-386.55*

OIL

Brent Crude ...... $13.00 per bbl (May)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI. 142.1 Feb (2.4%) Jan 1987=100
* Denotes midday trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.25	2.05
Austria Sch	18.57	17.07
Belgium Fr	54.69	50.29
Canada $	2.168	2.008
Cyprus Cyp£	0.786	0.736
Denmark Kr	10.45	9.65
Finland Mkk	8.95	8.15
France Fr	9.00	8.30
Germany Dm	2.65	2.44
Greece Dr	385.50	360.50
Hong Kong $	12.24	11.24
Ireland Pt	1.08	1.00
Italy Lira	2543.00	2388.00
Japan Yen	170.50	153.50
Malta	0.622	0.567
Netherlds Gld	2.960	2.730
Norway Kr	11.46	10.66
Portugal Esc	269.00	250.50
S Africa Rd	5.90	5.00
Spain Pta	212.50	198.50
Sweden Kr	12.35	11.55
Switzerland Fr	2.26	2.06
Turkey Lira	35500.0	33000.0
USA $	1.597	1.467

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Taylor Woodrow warns of banks forcing mergers

BY MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE battered construction industry must face up to a wave of mergers and consolidation that will be forced on it from outside, says Colin Parsons, chairman of Taylor Woodrow, before the sector can return to historic levels of profitability.

"There's over-capacity, we all know it," he said. "But I don't think there will be voluntary amalgamation or consolidation between contractors." Instead, mergers would be forced on an individualistic industry by outside forces, mainly banks and disaffected shareholders, he added, to increase competition and force up margins.

A swing back to profits at its contracting division was only one positive feature of a general return to financial health by Taylor Woodrow in 1993. The return to the black of all three core businesses left a pre-tax profit of £30.2 million against losses of £94.5 million in 1992 after hefty provisions.

Contracting, which lost £61.3 million in 1992, managed to scrape to a £1.3 million profit last year, although this included the release of an unspecified gain written back from provisions taken in 1992 to cover large and doubtful contracts.



Tony Palmer, chief executive (left) and Colin Parsons build on the return to growth

The housebuilding division swung from a £26.1 million loss to a £9.0 million profit, mainly the result of increased volumes feeding into higher margins. Property development and investment made a £14.5 million profit, after £14.2 million of losses.

Shareholders benefit with a doubled final dividend of 1.0p and a total raised from 1.0p to 1.5p, from earnings per share of 4.1p against a 22.4p loss. Taylor Woodrow shares, after an initial sharp gain, ended unchanged at 153p. Mr Parsons, who a year ago had insisted the group would be cash-positive in 1993, said £106 million was paid off borrowings, leaving a year-end total of £123 million.

Tempus, page 29

Monarch in $30m share offer

Monarch Resources, the gold company with operations only in Venezuela, but which is anxious to expand, plans to raise up to $30 million gross from an offer of shares to North American investors.

This will pave the way for a listing of Monarch's shares on the Toronto stock exchange, though Monarch intends to retain its current London listing for the foreseeable future. Monarch's attributable loss for the year ended December 31 was down from $4.72 million to $2.79 million.

WBB ahead

Shares in Watts Blake Bearne leapt 42p to 545p as the world leader in ball clays increased profitability in all divisions to boost 1993 profits. The company unveiled a pre-tax profits increase of 9.4 per cent to £7.94 million (£7.25 million). A final dividend of 8.5p makes a total of 12p (10.7p).

Brake Bros up

Brake Brothers, the supplier of frozen foods to the catering industry, lifted pre-tax profits 19.4 per cent to £19.1 million in the year to December 31. The final dividend is 4.82p (4.35p), giving an increased total of 6.82p (6.2p) for the year.

WALL STREET

	Mar 29 midday	Mar 28 close
AMP Inc	62⅞	62¼
AMR Corp	59⅝	60
Abbott Labs	27⅝	27⅝
Aetna Life	54⅛	54⅛
Ahmanson (HF)	17⅝	17⅝
Air Prod & Chem	46	46⅝
Albertson's	28⅞	29⅛
Alcan Aluminum	23⅞	23⅞
Alco Standard	54⅝	55⅛
Allied Signal	37	37
Alum Co of Am	74⅞	75⅛
Amax Gold Inc	7⅛	7⅛
Amerada Hess	46⅛	47⅛
Amer Brands	30⅛	30⅞
Amer Cyanamid	47⅛	47⅞
Amer El Power	32	32¼
Amer Express	28⅞	29⅜
Amer Genl Corp	28⅞	28⅛
Amer Home Pr	59⅞	58⅞
Amer Intl	85	84⅞
Amer Stores	51	52⅛
Amer T & T	52⅛	52⅛
Ameritech	40⅞	40⅞
Amoco	54⅝	54⅝
Anheuser-Busch	52⅞	52⅞
Apple Computer	33⅞	33⅞
Archer Daniels	24⅞	25⅞
Arkla	7⅞	7⅞
Armco	5⅞	5⅞
Armstrng Wrld	55⅞	55⅞
Asarco	24⅞	24⅞
Ashland Oil	42⅞	42⅞
Atl Richfield	97⅞	98
Auto Data Pro	53	53⅞
Avery Dennison	28⅞	28⅞
Avon Products	56⅞	56⅞
Baker Hughes	18⅞	18⅞
Baltm Gas & El	23⅞	23⅞
Banc One	34	33⅞
BankAmerica	40⅞	41⅞
Bank of NY	52	52⅞
Bankers Tr NY	69⅞	70⅞
Barnett Banks	45⅞	45
Bausch & Lomb	46⅞	47
Baxter Intl	23⅞	23⅞
Becton Dickson	39⅞	39⅞
Bell Atlantic	53⅞	53⅞
BellSouth	57⅞	58⅞
Black & Decker	22	22
Block (H&R)	44⅞	45
Boeing	46	45⅞
Boise Cascade	24⅞	25
Borden Inc	14	14
Bristol Myrs Sq	52⅞	52⅞
Browning Ferris	27⅞	27⅞
Brunswick	21⅞	22
Burlington Nthn	61⅞	62⅞
CBS	313⅞	318⅞
CNA Financial	66	65⅞
CPC Intl	47⅞	48⅞
CSX	82⅞	84⅞
Campbell Soup	39⅞	40
Can Pacific	15⅞	16⅞
Cptl Cities ABC	697	702⅞
Cptl Holdings	32⅞	33
Carolina Pwr	27⅞	27⅞
Caterpillar	113⅞	114
Central & SW	25⅞	25⅞
Champion Intl	29⅞	29⅞
Chase Manhat	33	33⅞
Chemical Bk	36⅞	37
Chevron Corp	87⅞	88⅞
Chrysler	53⅞	54⅞
Chubb Corp	73⅞	73⅞
Cigna Corp	62⅞	63
Citicorp	37⅞	37⅞
Clorox	51	51⅞
Coastal Corp	33⅞	32⅞
Coca Cola	42⅞	42⅞
Colgate-Palmolive	58⅞	59
Columbia Gas	28	28⅞
Commonw Ed	26⅞	26⅞
Compaq Comp	97⅞	97⅞
Comp Ass Int	31⅞	32⅞
Conagra	27⅞	28⅞
Cons Edison	29⅞	30⅞
Cons Nat Gas	41⅞	42⅞
Cons Rail	59⅞	59⅞
Cooper Inds	38	39
Corning Inc	33⅞	33⅞
Crown Cork	39⅞	39⅞
Dana Corp	58⅞	59⅞
Dayton Hudson	72⅞	73⅞
Deere	83⅞	85⅞
Delta Air Lines	47⅞	47⅞
Deluxe Corp	30⅞	31⅞
Detroit Edison	27⅞	27⅞
Digital Equip	30⅞	30⅞
Dillard Dept St	33⅞	34⅞
Disney (Walt)	43⅞	44
Dominion Res	41⅞	41⅞
Donnelley (RR)	28⅞	29
Dover Corp	63⅞	63⅞
Dow Chemical	62⅞	64⅞
Dow Jones	39⅞	39⅞
Dresser	22⅞	22⅞
Duke Power	37⅞	37⅞
Dun & Brdstreet	60⅞	61
Du Pont	56⅞	56⅞
Eastman Kodak	45	45

	Mar 29 midday	Mar 28 close
Eaton Corp	58⅞	60⅞
Emerson Elec	61⅞	61⅞
Engelhard Corp	29⅞	29⅞
Enron Corp	30⅞	31
Entergy	32⅞	32⅞
Ethyl Corp	12⅞	12⅞
Exxon	64⅞	65
FMC Corp	48	48
FPL Group	34⅞	34⅞
Federal Express	68⅞	69
Fed Nat Mtge	80⅞	81⅞
First Chicago	48⅞	48⅞
First Interstate	74⅞	76⅞
First Union Rty	7⅞	7⅞
Fleet Finl Grp	36⅞	36⅞
Fluor Corp	50⅞	50⅞
Ford Motor	59⅞	60⅞
GTE Corp	31⅞	31⅞
Gannett	53⅞	54⅞
Gap Inc Del	44	45⅞
Gen Dynamics	85⅞	86
Gen Electric	103⅞	103⅞
Gen Mills	56⅞	55⅞
Gen Motors	57⅞	57⅞
Gen Reinsurance	106⅞	105⅞
Gen Signal	34⅞	34⅞
Genuine Parts	36⅞	36⅞
Georgia Pac	65⅞	65⅞
Gillette	64⅞	64⅞
Glaxo ADR	18⅞	18⅞
Goodrich (BF)	42⅞	43
Goodyear Tire	41⅞	43⅞
Grace (WR)	43⅞	43⅞
Grt Atl Pac Tea	26	26⅞
Great Wstn Fin	17⅞	17⅞
Halliburton	30⅞	31
Harcourt General	32⅞	33⅞
Heinz (HJ)	33⅞	33⅞
Hercules	118⅞	119⅞
Hershey Foods	46⅞	46⅞
Hewlett Packard	83⅞	83⅞
Hilton Hotels	61⅞	63⅞
Home Depot	42⅞	42⅞
Homestake Mng	21⅞	22
Honeywell	34⅞	34⅞
Household Intl	30⅞	31⅞
Houston Inds	36⅞	36⅞
Humana	19⅞	20⅞
ITT Corp	83⅞	83⅞
Illinois Tool	43⅞	43⅞
INCO	24⅞	25⅞
Ingersoll Rand	38⅞	38⅞
Inland Steel	31⅞	32⅞
Intel Corp	68	68⅞
IBM	53⅞	53⅞
Intl Flav & Fr	37	37⅞
Intl Paper	68⅞	68⅞
James River Va	18⅞	19
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	38⅞	38⅞
Kellogg	51⅞	50⅞
Kerr-McGee	44⅞	45
Kimberly-Clark	54⅞	53⅞
Kmart	18⅞	19⅞
Knight-Ridder	58⅞	59⅞
Lilly (Eli)	52⅞	51⅞
Limited Inc	21⅞	21⅞
LIN Brdcstng	110⅞	111
Lincoln Nat	40	40⅞
Litton	31⅞	31
Liz Claiborne	23⅞	24⅞
Lockheed Corp	66⅞	67⅞
Louisiana Pac	37⅞	38⅞
MCI Commun	23⅞	23⅞
Marriott Int	28⅞	29⅞
Marsh & McLnn	84⅞	84⅞
Masco Corp	32⅞	34
May Dept St	42⅞	42⅞
Maytag Corp	19	19⅞
McCaw Cellular	50⅞	50⅞
McDonalds	57⅞	58⅞
McDonnell D	111⅞	112⅞
McGraw Hill	70	70⅞
Mead Corp	41⅞	42⅞
Medtronic	82⅞	81⅞
Mellon Bk	57⅞	58
Melville Corp	37⅞	37⅞
Merck Inc	30⅞	30⅞
Merrill Lynch	38⅞	39⅞
Minnesota Mine	98⅞	100
Mobil Corp	77⅞	77⅞
Monsanto	73⅞	79⅞
Morgan (JP)	63⅞	60⅞
Motorola Inc	102⅞	103⅞
Natl Medical	16⅞	17⅞
Natl Semi	20⅞	20⅞
Natl Service Ind	26⅞	26⅞
Navistar Int	23⅞	24⅞
NBD Bancorp	28⅞	28⅞
NY Times A	27⅞	28
Newmont Mng	58⅞	58⅞
Niag Mohawk	18⅞	18⅞
Nike B	55⅞	55⅞
NL Industries	7⅞	7⅞
Nordstrom	40⅞	42⅞
Norfolk Sthn	66⅞	67⅞
Nthn State Pwr	41⅞	42⅞
Norwest Corp	24⅞	24⅞
Nynex Corp	36	36
Occidental Pet	17⅞	17⅞
Ohio Edison	19⅞	19⅞

	Mar 29 midday	Mar 28 close
Oracle Systems	31⅞	32⅞
Oryx Energy Co	16⅞	16⅞
Owens Corning	37⅞	38⅞
PNC Financial	27⅞	27⅞
PPG Industries	73⅞	74⅞
Paccar Inc	52⅞	53⅞
Pacificorp	18⅞	18⅞
Pac Enterprises	21⅞	21⅞
Pac Gas & Elect	30⅞	30⅞
Pac Telesis	54⅞	55
Pall Corp	16⅞	16⅞
Panhandle East	21⅞	21⅞
Parker Hannifin	37⅞	37⅞
Peco Energy	28	28
Penney (JC)	53⅞	55⅞
Pennzoil	51⅞	52⅞
Pepsico	37⅞	37⅞
Pfizer	55⅞	55⅞
Phelps Dodge	55	56⅞
Philip Morris	50⅞	51⅞
Phillips Pet	28⅞	29⅞
Pitney Bowes	43⅞	43⅞
Polaroid	31⅞	32
PriceCostco	18	18
Procter & Gmbl	54	54⅞
Pub Serv E & G	29⅞	29⅞
Quaker Oats	62⅞	63
Ralston Purina	46	45⅞
Raychem Corp	39	39⅞
Raytheon	65⅞	65⅞
Reebok Intl	34⅞	34⅞
Reynolds Metals	49⅞	50⅞
Roadway Srvcs	69⅞	71⅞
Rockwell Intl	40	39⅞
Rohm & Haas	55⅞	56⅞
Royal Dutch	106⅞	107⅞
Rubbermaid	28⅞	29
Safeco Corp	53⅞	54
St Paul's Cos	78⅞	78⅞
Salomon Inc	50⅞	50⅞
Santa Fe Pac	24	24⅞
Sara Lee Corp	22⅞	22⅞
Seccorp	16⅞	17⅞
Schering Plough	57	57
Schlumberger	53⅞	54⅞
Scott Paper	42⅞	42⅞
Seagram	29⅞	29⅞
Sears Roebuck	44⅞	45⅞
Shell Trans	58⅞	58⅞
Sherwin Wlms	32	32⅞
Skyline Corp	21⅞	23⅞
Snap-On-Tools	41⅞	41⅞
Southern Co	20	20⅞
Stwestern Bell	41	40⅞
Sprint Corp	34	34⅞
Stanley Works	39⅞	39⅞
Sun Company	33	34⅞
Sun Microsys	26⅞	26⅞
Suntrust	45⅞	45⅞
Supervalu	35⅞	34⅞
Syntex Corp	14⅞	14⅞
Sysco Corp	25⅞	26⅞
TRW Inc	71⅞	73⅞
Tandem Comp	14⅞	14⅞
Tandy Corp	37⅞	38⅞
Telecom Corp	3⅞	3⅞
Teledyne	17⅞	17⅞
Temple Inland	47⅞	47⅞
Tenneco	53⅞	54⅞
Texaco	64⅞	64⅞
Texas Inst	77⅞	78
Texas Utilities	37⅞	37⅞
Textron	55	55
Time Warner	39⅞	41
Times-Mirror	32	32⅞
Timken	34⅞	35⅞
Torchmark	41⅞	41⅞
Toys R Us	35⅞	36⅞
Transamerica	51⅞	52⅞
Travelers	35⅞	36⅞
Tribune	60⅞	61⅞
Tyco Labs	50⅞	52
UAL Corp	130⅞	133
UST Inc	25⅞	26
USX Marathon	16⅞	16⅞
Unilever NV	106⅞	107⅞
Union Camp	45⅞	45⅞
Union Carbide	24⅞	24⅞
Union Pacific	57⅞	58⅞
Unisys Corp	14⅞	15⅞
USAIR Group	8⅞	8⅞
USF&G Corp	14⅞	14⅞
US Life	39⅞	40⅞
US West	40⅞	40⅞
United Tech	65⅞	66⅞
Unocal Corp	26⅞	26⅞
Upjohn	28⅞	28⅞
VF Corp	50⅞	50⅞
WMX Tech	24⅞	24⅞
Wal-Mart Stores	27	27
Warner-Lambert	61⅞	61⅞
Wells Fargo	145⅞	147⅞
Westinghouse El	12⅞	12⅞
Weyerhaeuser	43⅞	44
Whirlpool	63⅞	65⅞
Whitman	15⅞	15⅞
Winn Dixie	56⅞	57
Woolworth	18⅞	18⅞
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	52⅞	51⅞
Xerox	94⅞	95⅞

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust New Dawn C	246	...
Applied Distbn (135)	136	...
Ashchurch Res	12	...
Beazer Homes (165)	163½	+½
Brightstone	135	-1
Cedardata (105)	105	...
Central Euro Gwth	62	...
Chester Water	£87	...
County Smllr C	125	...
Domnick Hunter	224	...
Edin New Tiger	43½	+1
F & C Income Growth	490	...
F & C Private Eq	49	...
Fidelity Jpn Vls (100)	94	-1
Finelist (130)	149	+1
Franklin Res	£31½	...
Gartmore Brit Inc	103	...
Gartmore Brit Prf	110½	-½
Gartmore Brit Uts	213	...
Goldsbrgh Hlth (170)	149	...
Graham Group (183)	212	+2
Guangdong Dvlpt	70½	+½
Israel Fund ($1)	54	+¼
MAID	104	...
McDonnell Info (260)	253	-1
Mercury Euro Prvtn	464	...
Midland Indp Nws (140)	166	+1
Newport	98	...
Partco	219	...
Ptarmigan Int'l C	199	...
Radstone Tech (125)	110	...
Robert Wiseman (100)	103	...
Saracen Value (100)	91	...
Schroder UK Gwth	495	...
Waste Recycling (50)	65	+1
Wellington (205)	218	+2

RIGHTS ISSUES

Acal n/p (225)	33	-4
Ald Lyons Uts n/p (490)	48	+2
Cap & Regional n/p (173)	11	-1
Coal Investments n/p (65)	83	...
DCS n/p (55)	18	...
Dagenham Mtrs n/p (153)	20	...
Henlys n/p (280)	27	-5
Irish Contl n/p (IR400)	33	...
Proteus Intl n/p (280)	15	...
Upton & Sthrn n/p (30)	3	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
HSBC	764p (+17p)
SG Warburg	752p (+13p)
Bass	533p (+9p)
Telspec	260p (+12p)
Britannic	464p (+19p)
Steel Burrill	144p (+15p)
Man Utd	649p (+10p)
Reed Int	851p (+16p)
Smith David	502p (+13p)
Johnson Matth	604p (+16p)
Ropner	162p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Tibbet & Britten	813p (-12p)
BAT	441p (-11p)
MEPC	462p (-11p)
Bilton	638p (-12p)
Amec	123p (-12p)
BPB Ind	330p (-10p)
Berkeley Group	490½p (-9½p)
Marley	166p (-11p)
A McAlpine	282p (-10p)
RMC Group	957p (-12p)
Redland	538p (-14p)
Croda	352p (-24p)
Alexon	47p (-13p)
Mitel	308p (-17p)
Wolseley	911p (-19p)
Lloyd Thomp	283p (-11p)
Sime Darby	144p (-7p)
Glaxo	614p (-7p)

Closing Prices Page 30

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	4,700	Caradon	822	Lloyds Bk	3,300	Sears	4,100
Abbey Natl	1,700	Carlton C	1,300	MEPC	812	Svrn Trent	482
Alld-Lyons	2,400	Coats Vyla	4,400	Marks Spr	3,200	Shell Trans	5,700
Argyll Gp	4,300	Cm Union	585	NFC	4,200	Siebe	858
Arjo Wiggn	914	Courtaulds	619	NatWst Bk	3,400	SmKl Bch	3,400
AB Foods	1,000	De La Rue	572	Nat Power	1,100	Smith Nph	2,700
BAA	923	Eastern Elec	637	Nth Wst W	1,100	Sthrn Elec	1,100
BAT Inds	5,900	Enterpr Oil	1,500	P & O	1,700	Std Chartd	1,400
BOC	1,200	Forte	2,900	Pearson	2,000	Sun Allnce	1,500
BP	14,000	GRE	2,700	PowerGen	1,100	TI Gp	1,000
BTR	6,500	GUS	1,000	Prudential	4,700	TSB	2,300
BT	3,700	Gen Acc	717	RMC	528	Tarmac	3,600
Bk of Scot	2,900	Gen Elec	4,800	RTZ	1,900	Tesco	3,300
Barclays	2,200	Glaxo	6,300	Rank Org	1,300	Thames W	564
Bass	3,600	Granada	2,000	Reckitt Col	2,400	Thrn EMI	1,200
Blue Circle	979	Grand Met	2,200	Redland	1,500	Tomkins	6,000
Boots	2,300	Guinness	2,200	Reed Intl	2,900	Unilever	5,000
Bowater	1,000	HSBC	3,100	Rentokil	1,200	Utd Bisc	1,400
Brit Aero	697	Hanson	5,500	Reuters	921	Vodafone	2,100
Brit Airwys	809	ICI	3,200	Rolls Royce	6,200	Wrbrg (SG)	1,400
Brit Gas	3,900	Inchcape	2,100	Ryl Ins	1,500	Wellcome	4,900
Brit Steel	1,800	Kingfisher	4,200	Ryl Bk Scot	1,200	Whitbread	1,200
Burmah Cl	579	Ladbroke	1,500	Sainsbury	1,100	Wllms Hld	2,300
Cable Wire	4,200	Land Secs	2,300	Scot & New	1,000	Wolseley	216
Cadbury	1,700	Legal & Gn	1,700	Scot Power	1,300	Zeneca	865

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3727.23 (-35.12)
S&P Composite .... 456.10 (-3.90)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 19709.74 (-232.05)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 9480.14 (+283.11)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 406.90 (-4.03)

Sydney: AO .... 2100.8 (-8.1)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2168.35 (+6.93)

FT 30 share: .... 2470.1 (-9.5)

Brussels:
General .... 7559.72 (+22.87)

Paris: CAC-40 .... 2123.44 (-21.05)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 695.50 (-3.40)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1579.99 (-2.01)
FT Non Financials .... 1703.58 (-4.24)
FT Gold Mines .... 214.7 (-11.2)
FT Fixed Interest .... 115.45 (-2.33)
FT Govt Secs .... 95.97 (-0.84)
Bargains 41243
SEAQ Volume 673.5m
USM (Datastrm) .... 160.39 (-0.28)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 21	April 1	June 30	July 11

Call options were taken out on 29/3/94: Aminex, Bluebird Toys, Caldwell, Dale Electric, Regent Corp.
Puts: Aminex, Euro Disney.
Put & Call: Babcock.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Jun 94	3149.0	3156.0	3104.0	3118.0	14094
Previous open interest: 58913	Sep 94	3138.0	3144.0	3138.0	3135.0	4
Three Month Sterling	Jun 94	94.64	94.66	94.54	94.56	23306
Previous open interest: 455585	Sep 94	94.44	94.47	94.30	94.31	22074
	Dec 94	94.13	94.17	93.94	93.96	31674
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 94	95.66	95.66	95.65	95.64	318
Previous open interest: 9255	Sep 94	95.23	95.23	95.22	95.20	126
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 94	94.59	94.59	94.51	94.51	21022
Previous open interest: 937100	Sep 94	94.81	94.81	94.73	94.74	14722
Long Gilt	Mar 94	107-22	107-22	106-21	106-26	192
Previous open interest: 182491	Jun 94	106-26	107-04	105-06	105-22	96915
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 94	111.60	111.80	111.55	111.78	1445
	Sep 94				110.68	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 94	96.46	96.72	95.90	96.09	123405
Previous open interest: 200570	Sep 94	96.15	96.15	95.80	95.81	182
German Gov Bd Bobl	Jun 94	100.85	100.85	100.63	100.56	66
Previous open interest: 2330	Sep 94					0
Three month ECU	Jun 94	94.01	94.01	93.94	93.95	1070
Previous open interest: 29859	Sep 94	94.21	94.21	94.15	94.15	150
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 94	96.03	96.04	95.98	96.00	2183
Previous open interest: 46459	Sep 94	96.11	96.11	96.06	96.08	592
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 94	112.75	112.75	110.40	110.18	71474
Previous open interest: 107551	Sep 94	110.50	110.50	110.50	109.83	147

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 79.8 (day's range 79.8-80.2).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 29	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7920-2.8103	2.7920-2.7955	par-⅛ds	par-⅛ds
Brussels	51.15-51.52	51.15-51.25	2-6ds	10-14ds
Copenhagen	9.7900-9.8420	9.7900-9.8050	¼-1⅛ds	1⅝-3ds
Dublin	1.0320-1.0355	1.0322-1.0352	7-10ds	20-26ds
Frankfurt	2.4856-2.4982	2.4856-2.4885	par-⅛ds	⅛-⅜ds
Lisbon	256.89-258.61	256.89-257.52	100-109ds	280-301ds
Madrid	203.74-205.17	203.74-203.98	45-54ds	135-152ds
Milan	2430.70-2446.50	2430.70-2434.60	5-7ds	7-19ds
Montreal	2.0472-2.0602	2.0472-2.0502	0.09-0.03pr	0.10-0.01pr
New York	1.4875-1.4978	1.4875-1.4885	0.19-0.17pr	0.52-0.50pr
Oslo	10.8230-10.8810	10.8230-10.8380	¼-⅜ds	½-1⅞ds
Paris	8.4940-8.5530	8.4940-8.5080	⅝-⅞ds	2-2⅞ds
Stockholm	11.7280-11.8110	11.7280-11.7520	1⅝-2⅛ds	5⅛-6⅛ds
Tokyo	153.73-154.94	153.73-153.99	½-⅜pr	1⅛-1⅛pr
Vienna	17.44-17.60	17.44-17.48	⅛-1ds	⅛-2ds
Zurich	2.1134-2.1229	2.1144-2.1174	⅛pr-par	⅝-⅛pr

Source: Extel
Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4925-1.4950
Australia dollar	2.1100-2.1129
Bahrain dinar	0.5595-0.5715
Brazil cruzeiro*	1313.82-1315.55
Cyprus pound	0.745-0.755
Finland markka	8.227-8.622
Greece drachma	364.75-371.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.5137-11.5229
India rupee	46.59-47.55
Kuwait dinar KD	0.441-0.451
Malaysia ringgit	4.0041-4.0084
Mexico peso	4.9600-5.0006
New Zealand dollar	2.6287-2.6343
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.557-5.683
Singapore dollar	2.3368-2.3391
S Africa rand (fin)	7.0963-7.1460
S Africa rand (com)	5.1449-5.1530
U A E dirham	5.4455-5.5695

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4166-1.4176
Austria	11.73-11.74
Belgium (Com)	34.35-34.36
Canada	1.3758-1.3768
Denmark	6.5740-6.5790
France	5.7060-5.7090
Germany	1.6675-1.6685
Hong Kong	7.7247-7.7257
Ireland	1.4414-1.4429
Italy	1633.0-1634.0
Japan	103.61-103.64
Malaysia	2.6855-2.6875
Netherlands	1.8758-1.8768
Norway	7.2680-7.2710
Portugal	172.40-172.60
Singapore	1.5678-1.5688
Spain	136.86-136.91
Sweden	7.8741-7.8816
Switzerland	1.4180-1.4190

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¼ Finance Hse 5½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5 Low 3½ Week fixed: 4¾
Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 4¾; 3 mth 4¾. Sell: 2 mth 4[21]/[32]; 3 mth: 4[21]/[32].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	4[31]/[32]-4¾	4[31]/[32]-4[29]/[32]	5-4[31]/[32]	5⅛-5	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅛-5[1]/[16]	5⅛-5[1]/[16]	5⅛-5¼	5⅜-5¼	
Interbank:	5⅛-5[1]/[16]	5⅛-5[1]/[16]	5⅛-5¼	5⅜-5¼	5⅞-5¾
Overnight: open 5¼, close 3½.					
Local Authority Deps:	5⅛	n/a	5¼	5½	5¾
Sterling CDs:	5[3]/[32]-5[1]/[16]	5[3]/[32]-5[1]/[32]	5⅛-5[3]/[32]	5⅜-5[5]/[16]	5[13]/[16]-5¾
Dollar CDs:	3.59-3.56	n/a	3.79-3.76	4.10-4.07	4.60-4.57
Building Society CDs:	5⅛-5[1]/[16]	5⅛-5[1]/[16]	5⅛-5[3]/[16]	5⅜-5¼	5⅞-5¾

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Feb 28, 1994 Agreed rates Mar 26, 1994 to Apr 25, 1994 Schemes III: 6.50%. Reference rate Feb 1, 1994 to Feb 28, 1994 Scheme IV & V: 5.265%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⅛-3[1]/[16]	3[11]/[16]-3[9]/[16]	3⅞-3¾	4⅛-3[15]/[16]	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark:	5[25]/[32]-5[11]/[16]	5[25]/[32]-5[11]/[16]	5⅝-5½	5⅜-5¼	6⅛-5¾
French Franc:	6⅛-6[1]/[16]	6⅛-6[1]/[16]	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6[1]/[16]	6⅛-6⅛
Swiss Franc:	4⅛-4[1]/[16]	4⅛-4⅛	4⅛-4[1]/[16]	4⅛-4	4⅛-3⅞
Yen:	2⅛-2[1]/[16]	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2[1]/[16]	2⅛-2[3]/[16]	2⅛-1¾

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $388.60-389.00 Close: $386.80-387.30 High: $388.60-389.00 Low: $385.50-386.00 Krugerrand: $386.00-389.00 (£259.00-261.00)

Sovereigns: Old $91.00-93.50 (£60.50-62.50) New $91.00-93.50 (£60.50-62.50)

Platinum: $406.50 (£271.80) Silver: $5.71 (£3.835) Palladium: $133.75 (£89.45)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Lyon	540	28	39½	50½	4½	24	30½
(*556½)	589	6	17	29	35	55	60
Argyll	240	15	24½	28	4	16	21
(*250)	260	4½	14½	18½	14½	28	32½
ASDA	50	9	12	13	1	2½	4½
(*58)	60	2½	6	7½	4½	7	9
Boots	500	25	38½	48	5	20½	26
(*519)	550	3½	14½	26	35	50	54½
Br Airways	390	30	40½	47	3½	16	21½
(*414)	420	10½	24½	31½	15	31	36½
BP	330	30	38	44½	2	9½	14
(*356½)	360	8	19½	27½	12½	22	26½
Br Steel	140	6½	13½	17	4½	12	15
(*141½)	160	1½	6	9	20½	25	27
C & W	425	29½	43½	—	5	19½	—
(*444½)	450	13	29	—	16	31½	—
CU	550	36	51½	58½	3	13½	21½
(*579½)	600	6	23	31½	26	37	48
ICI	800	28½	56½	68½	14	33	46½
(*815)	850	6½	32	45	42½	60	75
Kingfshr	550	20½	34½	46½	11½	32	42
(*557)	600	3½	16	26½	47	64½	72
Land Sec	600	47	54½	61½	4½	13	17
(*640½)	650	9	22	33	17½	38	42
M & S	390	30	37	44	1½	10½	12½
(*417½)	430	8½	19	27	11	23½	25½
Nat West	460	19	38½	47	8	19½	29½
(*469½)	500	4½	21	27½	34	43	52
Sainsbury	360	24½	34½	41	4	18½	23½
(*378½)	390	7	20½	28	17½	35½	39
Shell	650	18	37½	47	8½	20½	30½
(*657½)	700	3	15½	23	45	50½	59½
Smkl Bch	360	27	39	49	4	15	22½
(*380½)	390	9	23½	34	17½	30	37½
Storehse	220	12	21	25½	3½	13½	14½
(*227½)	240	3	11	16	15½	23½	26
Trafalgar	97	6	12½	—	5	9½	—
(*97)	106	3	9	—	11	15½	—
Unilever	1000	38½	65	88	8½	21½	32½
(*1028½)	1050	12	39½	59½	31	45½	56½
Zeneca	700	53	75½	87	3	17	29½
(*740½)	750	17	44½	58	19	37	52

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
Grnd Met	420	47	57	64½	3½	10½	15½
(*459)	460	19	32	41½	16	26½	32
Ladbroke	180	23	30	34½	4	7	13
(*197½)	200	9½	17½	24	11	16	23
Utd Bisc	330	20½	31	41	7½	13½	21½
(*337½)	360	7	17½	26½	26½	30½	37½

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
BAA	1000	27½	52½	71	19½	46½	54
(*1003)	1050	8½	30	49	54½	75½	82½
Thames W	500	25½	35½	42½	5	23	27
(*519)	550	3	12	18½	34½	53	57½

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
BAT Ind	420	26	36	42½	13½	21½	29
(*442)	460	8½	18	27½	38	43½	53
BTR	360	18	29	35½	10½	17	24
(*366½)	390	5½	15	21½	29	34	40½
Br Aero	500	36½	56	72	29½	46½	59
(*500½)	550	17	35½	51½	61	76	88½
Br Telcm	390	19½	29½	36	6½	17½	22½
(*400½)	420	5½	14½	22	24	35½	39½
Cadbury	453	29½	—	—	5	—	—
(*473½)	493	8½	—	—	25½	—	—
Guinness	460	24½	37	48½	14	24½	32
(*470)	500	7½	19½	30	39½	48½	55½
GEC	280	18	23	27½	5	13	16
(*291)	300	6½	12	17½	15	24½	27½
Hanson	260	15½	20	25	4½	9½	13½
(*269½)	280	5	11	15½	14½	20	24
LASMO	120	12	18½	24	7	12½	16½
(*124)	130	7½	14	19	12½	18	22½
Lucas	180	18½	26	30	3½	9	14
(*193½)	200	6½	14½	19	13	18	24½
Pilkingtn	180	16	22	27	3½	9	13
(*190½)	200	5	11½	16½	13½	19½	24
Prudential	300	19	29½	34	5	10½	16½
(*312)	330	4½	14	19	22½	27	32½
Redland	500	43½	52	62	11	18½	31½
(*538½)	550	12	26	37½	38	46½	59
Royal Ins	280	14½	25½	32½	12	18	27
(*290½)	300	6½	16½	24	24½	30	38
Tesco	200	19	24	29½	5	9½	14
(*215)	220	6½	14	19½	16	20½	25
Vodafone	500	42	61	75	8½	24	31½
(*531½)	550	16½	32	50	32½	47	57
Williams	390	16½	25	31½	15½	22½	28½
(*395)	420	5	13	19	37	41½	47

FT-SE INDEX (*3125½)

	3000	3050	3100	3150	3200	3250
Calls						
Apr	133	91	58	34	17	8
May	161	125	97	71	51	37
Jun	178	145	118	93	71	53
Jul	192	163	135	109	88	67
Dec	271	—	211	—	162	—
Puts						
Apr	15	28	45	72	109	153
May	46	60	82	105	136	170
Jun	63	79	101	125	153	184
Jul	74	93	114	138	167	196
Dec	136	—	175	—	221	—

Series		Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Abby Nat	460	29	41½	50½	14½	24	28½
(*470½)	500	11	23½	32	38	46	50
Amstrad	35	4½	6½	7½	3½	5	6
(*35½)	40	2½	4½	5½	6½	7½	9
Barclays	500	30½	63½	72½	9	22	27½
(*535½)	550	22	36	46	31½	46	51½
Blue Circ	300	30	39	43	10½	19	20½
(*321½)	330	14	24½	28½	26½	35½	36
Br Gas	300	16	22	24	14	19	24½
(*300½)	330	5	10	12½	35	37½	44
Dixons	200	18	23½	28	9	18	20½
(*208)	220	9	15	19½	21	29½	33
Forte	240	20½	28	31½	4	14½	17½
(*254)	260	10½	18	22	20½	24	28½
Hillsdwn	160	15½	19½	22	7½	10½	12
(*171½)	180	5½	10½	13½	21	23	24
Lonrho	140	20	28½	32	7	13½	16
(*151½)	160	10½	17	23	17	24	27½
Sears	120	7	9	11½	8	10½	12
(*120)	130	4	5½	7½	16	17½	18½
Thrn Emi	1050	51½	74½	87½	35	64	72½
(*1055½)	1100	28½	50	65	64	98	103½
Tomkins	240	18½	25	29½	9	15½	18
(*248)	260	9	15	19½	21	27½	29½
TSB	200	27	32½	35½	4	9½	11½
(*218½)	220	14½	21½	24½	12	18½	21
Wellcome	550	48	67½	78	23	37½	47
(*578½)	600	24½	45	55	51½	65	74½

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Glaxo	600	27	50½	69	15½	33	53
(*613)	650	8	34	48½	42½	61	82
HSBC	750	41	82	105½	23½	55	69
(*767)	800	19½	57½	79	52	81	94½
Reuter	2000	64	142½	185½	33½	88	119
(*2024)	2050	38	117	159½	58½	113½	143

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
R-Royce	160	20	25½	30	3½	7½	11½
(*175½)	180	7	14	18½	11½	16½	21

Series		Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Fisons	130	14	22	25	8	14½	18½
(*134)	140	8	18	20½	15½	20½	24½

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
Eastrn Elc	650	31	46	59½	14	33½	41½
(*662½)	700	10	23	33½	44	64	71

Series		Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Puts Jun	Puts Sep	Puts Dec
Natl Pwr	420	48	54½	61½	9	15½	20
(*458½)	460	20½	31½	39	27½	33	38
Scot Pwr	390	31½	39½	45	10	20½	24
(*405½)	420	15½	25	30	25½	36	39½

March 29, 1994 Tot: 25760 Call: 12355 Put: 11405 FT-SE Call: 4747 Put: 4747
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: Cocoa slumped on the LME, following a technical sell-off. There was no fresh news to trigger the rout, in fact the mornings stock figures showed a solid withdrawal from the warehouses. However, there is a lot of talk that the downward trend in stocks may be reversed soon, following a flood of scrap due to be delivered from Russia and slowing offtake from the US.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	875-852	May	980-979
May	892-891	Jul	992-988
Jul	911-910	Sep	1004-1001
Sep	927-926	Dec	1018-1010
Dec	946-945		
Mar	968-967	Volume:	5978

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	1337-1332	Nov	1343-1340
May	1344-1343	Jan	1341-1340
Jul	1348-1347	Mar	1337-1335
Sep	1347-1346	Volume:	2647

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Jan	11.53-12.51
Spot: 294.00		Mar	11.28-12.66
May	11.93-12.36	May	11.08-12.86
Jul	12.43-12.86	Jul	10.88-13.16
Sep	11.78-12.36	Volume:	80

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	308.8-07.5
Spot: 347.0		Mar	308.7-07.5
May	341.5-41.0	May	310.2-07.9
Aug	338.0-37.5	Aug	314.1-11.5
Oct	313.9-13.5	Volume:	1188

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 29

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	75.10	135.08	126.33
(+/-)	-2.09	-6.23	-2.28
Eng/Wales:	74.52	135.19	124.08
(+/-)	-2.17	-5.54	-3.41
(%)	-24.6	-12.4	-21.4
Scotland:	77.97	134.45	131.52
(+/-)	-2.87	-4.48	-0.53
(%)	+9.7	-52.6	+4.4

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq	—	Mar	unq	—
Sep	unq	—	Volume: 0		

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

May	110.15
Jun	111.15
Sep	93.50
Nov	94.65
Jan	96.40
Volume:	400

BARLEY (close £/t)

May	107.75
Sep	94.25
Nov	95.75
Jan	97.50
Mar	98.40
Volume:	15

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	—
Dec	—
Feb	—
Apr	—
Volume:	0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	190.0	195.5
May	195.0	201.0
Nov	unq	70.0
Volume:		116

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Apr 71.25-71.75

JCIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): The market was still trying to come to terms with the Opec agreement, prices remained depressed.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	13.25	-0.45
Brent 15 day (Apr)	13.15	-0.25
Brent 15 day (May)	13.00	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (May)	14.10	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	14.25	-0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	151 (-1)	153 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	136 (-2)	137 (-2)
Non EEC 1H Apr	137 (-2)	139 (-1)
Non EEC 1H May	135 (-2)	137 (-2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	67 (n/c)	69 (n/c)
Naphtha	129 (-1)	131 (-1)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Apr	135.50-35.75	Jul	135.50-35.75
May	134.00 BID	Aug	137.25-37.75
Jun	134.00-34.25	Sep	139.75-40.00
		Vol:	14166

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	13.03-13.04	Aug	13.33 BID
Jun	13.11-13.12	Sep	13.48 BID
Jul	13.23-13.24	Vol:	28646

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Apr	143.00-46.50	Jul	n/a
May	143.00 BID	Aug	n/a
Jun	n/a	Vol:	20

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 94	1289	1282	1288
May 94	1290	1282	1282
Jul 94	1160	1150	1150
Oct 94	1285	1285	1289

Vol: 56 lots. Open int'st: 2943 Index 1206 +7

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1944.0-1945.0	1951.0-1951.5	1018625
Lead ($/tonne)	455.50-456.50	470.50-471.00	198275
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	948.00-949.00	970.00-971.00	564700
Tin ($/tonne)	5485.0-5490.0	5535.0-5540.0	18820
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1320.0-1320.5	1341.0-1341.5	839425
Nickel ($/tonne)	5615.0-5620.0	5690.0-5695.0	65040

BMW needs Rover to drive into new areas of growth

Ross Tieman reports from Munich on the implications of BMW's purchase of Rover Group, the British carmaker



Bernd Pischetsrieder could use Rover to help win concessions from his German workforce

Germans love their cars with an ardour few nations can match. Even in Munich, home of BMW, the company's top of the range 850 model attracts approbation from 40-plus women when waiting at traffic lights. On the autobahn, unfettered by speed limits, drivers of BMWs and Mercedes vye to show machismo in the outside lane.

Quite how this obsessive passion for cars will meld with Rover's vocation as a manufacturer remains to be seen. Yet the takeover of the British carmaker, consumated almost two weeks ago, is clearly going to require rather more cultural adjustment than perhaps either party fully comprehends.

For Rover, growth is still a novelty. After 30 years or more of restructuring, mergers and disposals, Rover has only in the past two or three years begun to convince of its potential for success. It is BMW, the European car industry's Johnny-come-lately, whose nerve remains still undamaged by failure.

By any measure, BMW's post-war growth from its roots as a near-bankrupt motorcycle manufacturer has been a tale of extraordinary success. Making motorcyles taught BMW some early and essential lessons about the need for niche marketing, international competitiveness and how to achieve it. The world motorcycle market was one of the first to be attacked, and ultimately dominated, by the Japanese. But instead of collapsing in disarray, like its British peers, BMW responded by driving its product portfolio, and its products themselves, up-market. The lesson has been extended to its cars, where the company has relentlessly pursued quality and performance as a means of product differentiation.

But in the late 1980s and early 1990s, BMW begun to learn a hard new lesson: technological sophistication alone is no longer a guarantee of success. In cars, as earlier in motorbikes, the company's technical lead has been whittled away by manufacturers who enjoy lower production costs.

To its credit, BMW, which is chaired by Bernd Pischetsrieder, has clung doggedly to its motorcycling roots and now looks to be regaining ground lost to its Japanese opponents. Last year, BMW's motorbike sales, at 35,150, managed to maintain the record of the previous year. Indeed, the company increased its sale of a declining world market to 4.2 per cent.

But BMW has *apparently* concluded it can no longer fight the Japanese on its own. Although relying heavily upon BMW technology, its latest bike, the F650, was developed with Bombardier-Rotax, the Austrian engine maker, and Aprilia, the Italian manufacturer. Since last autumn, the bikes have been assembled by Aprilia, in Italy, where wage costs, including social charges are estimated to be 55 per cent of those in Germany. But motorbikes are now small beer for BMW.

As cars once represented both a diversification and a step up-market, so BMW is now clambering up the technological ladder into aero-engines. It has teamed up with Rolls-Royce in a partnership, called BMW Rolls-Royce and 50.5 per cent owned by the German company, formed in May 1990. BMW Rolls-Royce has concentrated on the development of civil jet engines for regional and business aircraft. As well as partnering Rolls in the Tay and Trent programmes, BMW is investing *up to DM1.3 billion (£520 million) in a* new family of engines, called BR700, which will eventually replace the Tay in jets of up to 130 seats. At present, the business is reckoned to he losing about DM230 million a year. But the BR family goes into commercial production in 1996. Over the subsequent 15 years, the partners expect to sell about 3,000 of the engines, with sufficient revenues to ensure profitability.

If all goes to plan, aerospace will come to play an important part in BMW's business in the next century. But carmaking will remain its heart. Last year, BMW sold 532,960 cars, compared with 430,211 built by Rover, accounting for the DM19.9 billion of the company's DM28.9 billion sales. The going was tough, though. Group net earnings fell 29 per cent to DM516 million. The total number of cars produced fell 11 per cent. Sales of larger models fell fastest; a key factor since BMW relies for about 60 per cent of total sales upon the small three series compact saloon. But the omens from recovering economies were good. In spite of the intensifying quality challenge, Japanese exporters to the United States are being savaged by the rising yen. BMW had an easier time in an easier market. Though probably at scant profit, it increased US sales 19 per cent to 78,000 cars. This makes BMW, for the first time, the leading European manufacturer in the US. Sales in Britain, BMW's third-largest market, rose a whisker to 42,000. But the best overall growth was in the markets of Pacific Asia, which last year bought 18,000 BMWs, up 30 per cent.

Clearly, BMW is capable of further increasing sales, but profit margins are coming under pressure. In the automotive industry, as earlier in electronics, German manufacturers are being hamstrung by high labour and social costs when other manufacturers are improving their technical competence.

> "Rover allows BMW to develop several specialist marques in parallel, thus doubling or tripling its rate of growth"

Like its domestic rivals, Mercedes and Volkswagen, and the rest of German industry, BMW was insulated from the downturn in the world economy by the boom which followed German reunification. Sales in the domestic market continued to grow even while Britain, the US and Japan were sinking into recession. But since the European monetary system fractured in autumn 1992, currencies have also posed a grave problem. The mark has risen 20 per cent against other European currencies just as high interest rates, imposed by the Bundesbank to quell inflation, have triggered the worst recession Germans have faced in 50 years. Since 1986, the dollar has lost half its value against the mark. No wonder BMW decided it was time to build its first plant outside Germany. It chose the US. Fitting out a factory, at Spartanburg, South Carolina, is now under way. Later this year, the first made-in-America models will start to emerge. Next year, production of a new model, the Z21 roadster, will begin. This two-seater, produced using labour costing 30-40 per cent less than in Germany, will be exported worldwide, including Germany. According to Stephen Reitman, an analyst at UBS, the broker, the cars will sell for about $25,000 and cost some $3,000 each less to produce than if they had been built in Germany.

Mr Reitman concludes: "What BMW's decision to build a plant in the United States demonstrates is that its German workers can no longer trust in the 'Made in Germany' touchstone to protect their final assembly jobs."

He predicts a continuing fall in the number of BMW employees in Germany as the company continues to seek efficiency savings. By 1996 or 1997, he says the number of BMW car workers in Germany is likely to fall to 40,000, a fifth down on the present level.

The £800 million purchase of Rover, raises questions about how BMW will develop its business. In buying Rover, BMW has used most of its spare cash and taken on a subsidiary with peak annual borrowing needs in excess of £2 billion. It has also acquired a business that needs hundreds of millions of pounds each year to develop new models. In the past, those developments have been self-funded from cash flow, but there has been little profit from Rover's £5 billion of sales.

More important, BMW has bought a manufacturer capable of exploiting two fast-growing niche markets — four-wheel-drive vehicles and mini cars, where BMW could not compete without diluting its brand image as a maker of high performance cars. Buying Rover, with its all-important "English" image in continental Europe, the US and elsewhere, allows BMW to develop several specialist marques in parallel, thus doubling or tripling its rate of growth.

Rover's admirable productivity and moderate wage costs, estimated, with social charges included, to be about half BMW's DM49.6 an hour, also suggest the return available on investment may compare favourably with that from BMW's own plants.

BMW managers may well be tempted to use the threat of transferring production, or investment, from Germany to win concessions from German workers and restructuring of their domestic operations. But the threat should not be exaggerated. Germans love their cars too much for that.

TEMPUS

Hammering the premium

THE property sector is coming down to earth and Hammerson's results show the company has been grounded with the rest. Property shares shot skywards last year, driven by panic investment from UK institutions, which feared they would miss out on the yield gap between bonds and high yielding property. When the best deals were done institutions switched to shares and Hammerson, like many investment companies, traded at a premium to net assets.

Yesterday that premium vanished, which is probably no more than the group deserves. The Postel deal demonstrates that Ron Spinney's team is addressing Hammerson's lack of earnings growth and rebalancing a portfolio comprising lumpy assets in disparate low-growth corners of the globe. Buying UK properties with solid current rental streams but break clauses or lease expiries in the near future gives Hammerson the possibility of rebuilding its British assets with the potential of an earnings fillip in three to five years. But yesterday's figures reminded the market that Hammerson's core portfolio will produce little or no rental growth in Britain while problem overseas assets in Canada and Australia may take years to sell.

The downward drift of property shares has re-rated all but a few at or below their perceived asset values. A premium attaches a "goodwill" component to the shares but few managements can boast that their presence adds any value to their companies. For property companies to justify a premium requires a prospect of rapid asset or dividend growth and the market is now reserving that accolade for the exceptional few.

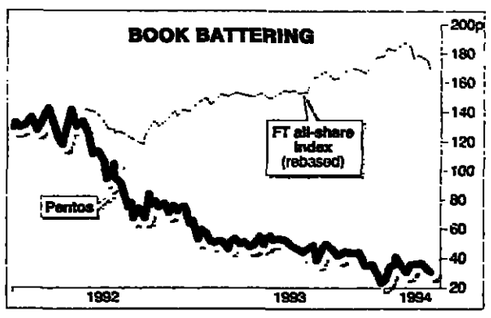
Pentos

PENTOS may have finally received a cash infusion, but the long-awaited rights issue leaves the group still looking anaemic. Discounting one-off payments from landlords, the group's continuing *operations made an operating* loss of £11 million, before exceptional items and interest. How the group proposes to service average debts of £45 million from such a shaky base is anyone's guess.

To survive, Pentos needs to improve the sales at its Dillons bookstore chain radically and cut operating costs by up to 30 per cent. There are *benefits to be gained by* updating the company's lamentable IT systems, but they need to be dramatic. Bookstores are traditionally low turnover businesses in low-rent shops on the edge of town. In the eighties, however, Dillons opened in some of the most expensive sites in the country, even in Trafalgar Square. The chain has yet to prove it can generate the turnover to cover such costs.

Dillons must also support Ryman's stationery chain, *which is suffering falling* sales and operating losses and, worst of all, Athena, still searching for a customer base. A more cautious approach would have been to jettison Athena entirely, but Pentos's balance sheet looks incapable of withstanding the impact.

At 29p, Pentos's shares are option money on a miraculous recovery. *If there is a* miracle at Pentos, it will not happen overnight.



TayWood

TAYLOR Woodrow must be getting weary of enumerating year after year its provisions on dubious contracts. Indeed, as the problem projects like Euro Disneyland, Eurotunnel and the John Wayne airport in California slip into history, these are reducing further and further until they can reasonably be regarded as the normal cut-and-thrust of a contracting business.

But its refusal to say how much of a dramatic £125 million profits turnround came from the release of earlier unused provisions sits at odds with group's newfound spirit of *glasnost*. The total was probably only a few million, although it did relieve TayWood from the embarrassment of having to report another loss from contracting.

Otherwise, the figures overbalance on the side of conservatism. Taylor Woodrow hardly being in the business of setting up any further rude shocks for the market in future. Contracting has little chance of drastic *improvement, but house*-building should motor, even given the group's typically downbeat view of the current year. Profits of about £45 million this year suggest a multiple well above 20, but the net asset figure of 127p should provide support.

Next

WITH a successful mail order business, a credit management operation, a cash pile and a willingness to invest in property, Next is looking more like GUS every day. No coincidence perhaps, since its chairman is Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale. And there are certainly worse companies to emulate.

Next's 1993 results marked the end of its days as a recovery stock, but the shares show considerable potential as a core holding. The group's gross margin does not appear to have much more upside now it has reached 27 per cent, but sales density should continue to rise as it moves into larger stores. This should more than offset the effect on earnings of the rising tax charge.

The GUS-style conservatism the group displays should prevent Next doing anything foolish with its cash. Instead, it is handing it to shareholders in larger dividends. With the payout expected to rise to 6.5p this year, the shares are trading on a near-market yield of 3.3 per cent. That looks solid value now the business has demonstrated its earning power.

Bleinheim

TRUE to the spirit of his Viking forebears, Staffan Svenby has clambered on board Blenheim Group and set about it with his axe. To the latest of the highly-acquisitive stars of the 1980s to burn out, the notion of closing exhibitions, however unprofitable, is truly radical.

Blenheim faltered when a £76 million bond issue in June was followed by serious profits downgrades, after management figures proved over-optimistic. Progress will be cautious, burdened by the weak German and French markets. The lack of two big biennial exhibitions will hold profits back this year, and the shares of this one-time high-flier sell on just 14 times' *those earnings.*



THE TIMES

FOUR FREE JAZZ CDs



Over the next two weeks, *The Times*, in association with Original Jazz Classics, is offering readers the opportunity to collect four free CDs of great jazz music. The four recordings cover four areas of jazz music – great jazz groups, saxophonists, pianists and guitarsists – and form a jazz library anyone would be proud to own.

This week's free recording, The Great Jazz Pianists, features some of the greatest pianists of all time: Bill Evans, Thelonius Monk, Art Tatum, Count Basie/Oscar Peterson, Andre Previn and Duke Ellington.

HOW TO GET YOUR FREE JAZZ CD

To take advantage of this offer, simply collect two tokens from *The Times* (five will be printed from Monday, March 28 to Friday, April 1). When you have collected the two tokens, attach them to the coupon printed in *The Times* on Saturday, March 26. Complete the coupon and send it to the address below, with a cheque or postal order for £1.98, made payable to FREE MUSIC, to cover the cost of postage and packaging.

Send your application to: *The Times*, The Great Jazz Collection, PO Box 2002, Romford, Essex, RM3 2GQ. Allow 28 days for delivery.

If you missed the coupon in *The Times* last Saturday, March 26, you can still collect your first, second and third free CD as we will print another coupon this Saturday, with full details of how to get your fourth free CD: The Great Jazz Guitarists.

THE TIMES GREAT JAZZ COLLECTION TOKEN

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Why Gerald likes to fly United

IT MUST feel a bit like pay ja vu for Gerald Greenwald, the US executive lined up for the second time to run the $5 billion buyout of United Airlines. This time, the compensation package is twice as good, and over the next five years could total more than £13 million. Greenwald's first attempt to run America's second-largest airline came almost five years ago in a leveraged buy-out, which, at that time, included $750 million of British Airways' money. The deal collapsed, *sparking a mini-crash* on Wall Street, but the contract Greenwald signed allowed him to walk away with $9 million without ever taking office. The former Chrysler vice-chairman then went off to join the Czechoslovakian lorry maker Tatra Koprivnice in a less demanding role, where his contract demands three or four weeks attendance over the next ten months. If shareholders approve the current buyout, Greenwald will replace Stephen Wolf as chairman for a $1 million sign-on fee, a five-year contract at $725,000 a year, get two sets of share options worth a total of at least $14.5 million, a performance bonus, and will be credited with more than 30 years of pension service.

SINGAPORE is refreshingly bold in its steps to protect tourists from rip-offs. One handout from the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board names nine errant local retailers, with their addresses and details of their scams, under the heading "Avoid these shops". Required reading for Far East travellers.

Brotherly love

IF YOU think Australians can be rude about the British, and vice-versa, then consider how cutting they are about other Aussies. En route to Perth airport, and due to visit Darwin for the first time, I asked the taxi driver what were the highlights of Darwin. "The departure lounge," I was assured. "Oh!", said I, "I think I'll only write that when I get back to London for fear of offending them". "You can write it now," he urged, "they won't be offended. They can't read."



Gumboots on

SOME of London's best garden squares in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea have been given away for not much more than an expensive bouquet. The Wereldhave Property Corporation has given the freeholds of Wetherby Gardens, Barkston Gardens and Collingham Gardens to the committees that have been tending them. Others on the list, for as little as £100, include Morton and Cresswell Gardens and Bolton and Courtfield Gardens. Wereldhave, the UK subsidiary of a Dutch property group, bought the freeholds of the gardens, originally part of the Gunter estate, when it took over Peachey Property in 1988. Michael Jukes, Wereldhave's managing director, said the gardens are protected by Acts of Parliament, and generate no income. "Since there is not much we can do with them, we decided to 'donate' them to those who tend them". The gesture is much appreciated.

Honorary Brit

FIRST the foreigners move in and take over our businesses. *Then their nationals muscle in* and take the top jobs! Jim Blackwell, chief executive of Lotus Cars USA Inc, has been elected chairman of the British Automobile Manufacturers' Association, which represents UK interests in the US. Perhaps there is not much choice now BMW owns Rover and Ford owns Jaguar and Aston Martin. Even Bugatti of Italy owns Lotus. Perhaps in future, a representative from Rolls-Royce will have to do the job in perpetuity as the only wholly-owned UK car maker.

Memory men

MIDDLE managers are feeling even more insecure than usual, according to a new survey sponsored by Reuters that concludes Corporate UK's lieutenants-with-a-view-to-captaincy feel the computer information revolution is passing them by. The problem is the self-interest of directors, and senior management. The survey, by Taylor Nelson AGB of 500 British senior business personnel, showed two-thirds felt office politics have spawned a generation of "information misers" who secrete their push-button knowledge. Marion King, managing director of Reuters Business Information, said: "Managers regard information as power. They keep it to themselves to increase their power within the organisation." Shades of "Let My People Go"?.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Small losses on the day

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 28. Dealings end April 8. §Contango day April 11. Settlement day April 18. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
526	345	Abbey Nt	470 †	....	....	3.7	15.8
514	174	Allied Irish	293 †	....	....	5.8	∞
3749½	130	Anz Nses Z	2364	-4	....	3.8	18.6
3900½	2712½	Bankamerica	2750	-37½	....	....	....
319	177	Bk of Ireland	255	-1	....	4.9	18.8
450	325	Bk Ionsnd UK	430 †	....	20.0	5.8	∞
567	1194	Bank Scotland	195	+2	4.6	3.0	26.5
665	362	Barclays	538 †	-3	....	3.5	22.4
57	1	Carlisle	32½	....	....	....	....
695	396	Chas Allen	551	+1	28.0	6.4	....
180	85	Cattles	180 †	-3	5.0	4.2	∞
2487½	1543½	Chase Manh	2218½	-9½	....	....	....
2912½	1343½	Citicorp	2518½	+12½	....	....	....
551	250	Close Bros	531 †	-6	....	3.0	14.4
£153¾	917½	Commerzbk	£141½	+4½	....	2.7	....
£318½	£250½	Deutsche Bk	£318	+65½	....	1.9	....
95	45	First Nat Fin	77	....	....	2.4	....
1651	876	Fuji Bank Y	1439½	-7½	....	0.4	....
529	343	Gerrard Nat	498	+1	21.5	4.6	10.9
1113	670	HSBC	764 †	+17	23.5	3.8	∞
1133	674	HSBC Hl£	785 †	+20	23.5	3.7	∞
473	242	Hambros	363	....	14.3	4.9	16.8
445	312	Joseph H)	418	....	16.7	5.0	....
170	96	Lloyd Thomas	145	....	9.0	7.8	....
693	312	Nelsnsen Ben	491 †	....	....	4.7	∞
698	492	Lloyds	568 †	+6	....	6.9	12.0
119	63	Lon Scot Bk	108	....	3.4	3.9	18.3
6509	3572	Nat Amst Bk	5509	+64	....	4.2	13.4
1534	994	Nat West	1230 †	+6	....	4.9	12.6
573	270	Provident	485 †	+4	....	4.1	15.4
70	39	Rea Bros	69 †	....	0.7	1.4	∞
525	337	Rvl Bk Scot	416	-2	....	3.5	18.8
1490	1025	Schroders	1195 †	+30	16.5	1.7	∞
1537	576	Stand Chart	1046 †	-17	....	2.9	10.2
291	149	TSB	218 †	+1	....	4.4	14.5
199	75	Union	157 ↓	-1	....	2.4	∞
1012	529	Warburg SG	752	+13	....	5.3	11.0
9856½	6843½	Wells Fargo	7850½	+43½	....	2.7	....
260	121	Westpac	223	-7	....	2.4	∞
390	188	Wintrust	353 †	....	....	3.4	31.6

BREWERIES

592	517	Allied-Lyons	557 †	+1	....	5.0	15.5
647	441	Bass	533	+6	....	4.6	14.2
398	189	Boddington	268 †	....	....	3.7	13.7
459	262	Bulmer (HP)	423	....	....	3.1	17.0
193	127	Burnonvd Inv	169	....	4.7	3.5	14.1
97	75	Eldridge P 'A'	89	....	....	2.8	22.1
70	50	Fosters Brewing	59½	....	....	5.1	86.6
483	338	Fwlr Sn 'A'	438	-2	7.5	2.1	18.4
500	373	Grand Met	458 †	+1	....	3.5	16.7
347	247	Greenalls Grp	337	....	....	3.6	14.8
594	504	Greene King	536	....	....	3.1	14.2
542	306	Guinness	474	-5	....	3.4	∞
261	230	Handy Hanan	252	....	....	4.2	13.5
208	106	Hartstone	160	....	....	2.8	14.5
455	395	Highland Dist	425	....	....	1.9	21.1
3225	2630	Holt J	3150	....	42.0	1.7	20.5
196	118	Macallan-Glen	145	+1	1.1	1.0	∞
1950	1555	Macdn Marm 'A'	1645	....	....	2.5	21.2
246	164	Mansfield	200	....	....	2.5	14.3
302	231	Minton Thmp	269	....	....	2.6	15.0
595	398	Mortimer Clark	551 †	+1	....	4.1	31.6
1000	725	Moyston W	948 †	....	7.0	5.9	13.2
580	455	Morland	495	-2	....	2.5	16.9
12	6	Paramount 'A'	9½	....	....	1.9	17.6
260	145	Regent Inns	243 †	-1	....	2.1	24.7
1521½	753½	SA Breweries	1182½	-15½	....	2.4	19.2
1230	1000	Scot & Newc	1225	....	....	4.1	16.1
225	148	Taunton Cider	149	-1	6.2	5.2	11.6
206	213	Vaux Group	282	....	....	4.1	18.5
469½	216	Wetherspoon JD	349 †	+5	....	2.1	27.1
423	270	Whitbread	325	+5	....	2.3	15.6
613	463	Wolverhmpn D	511	+3	....	3.1	14.3
530	475	Young 'A'	528	....	14.7	3.5	21.8

BUILDING, ROADS

208	73	Abbey	183	....	....	1.4	30.0
37	12	Alfreghtons	26	....	....	0.6	....
200	87	Allens	189	-9	....	3.7	36.3
164	65	Amec	121	-12	3.0	3.0	22.8
454	150	Ashtead	406 †	-1	....	1.4	27.1
329	140	Attwoods	124	-1	....	1.6	∞
1113	670	BPB Ind	964 †	-10	....	2.9	20.5
1133	674	BSS Gp	785 †	+20	23.5	3.7	∞
473	242	Bambros	363	....	14.3	4.9	16.8
445	312	Joseph H)	418	....	16.7	5.0	....
170	96	Lilley Sharpen	145	....	9.0	7.8	....
693	312	Nelsnsen Ben	491 †	....	....	4.7	∞
698	492	Lloyds	568 †	+6	....	6.9	12.0
119	63	Lon Scot Bk	108	....	3.4	3.9	18.3
6509	3572	Nat Amst Bk	5509	+64	....	4.2	13.4
1534	994	Nat West	1230 †	+6	....	4.9	12.6
573	270	Provident	485 †	+4	....	4.1	15.4
70	39	Rea Bros	69 †	....	0.7	1.4	∞
525	337	Rvl Bk Scot	416	-2	....	3.5	18.8
1490	1025	Schroders	1195 †	+30	16.5	1.7	∞
1537	576	Stand Chart	1046 †	-17	....	2.9	10.2
291	149	TSB	218 †	+1	....	4.4	14.5
199	75	Union	157 ↓	-1	....	2.4	∞
1012	529	Warburg SG	752	+13	....	5.3	11.0
9856½	6843½	Wells Fargo	7850½	+43½	....	2.7	....
260	121	Westpac	223	-7	....	2.4	∞
390	188	Wintrust	353 †	....	....	3.4	31.6

BUSINESS SERVICES

740	463	ADT	717	+3	....	....	....
433	198	Adam & Harvey	433	....	13.0	3.8	7.9
95	56	Br Lng-Aw	70	....	3.5	5.0	12.5
62	37	Abram Lakes	62	....	2.0	4.1	....
139	57	Acc Ser	117	+8	....	3.4	....
84	41	BET Ord	75	....	....	5.1	17.1
61	41	BKB Ke	56	....	4.9	3.8	∞
215	153	BPP	203 †	....	8.8	5.4	∞
166	134	BSM	158	....	....	4.5	∞
365	265	Barrow Index	299 †	....	8.1	4.9	16.2
9	6	Black & Edge	8½	....	....	....	....
19	15	Bristrad	18	-1	0.7	4.9	....
278	178	Brit Data Sys	182 †	....	6.4	3.4	13.3
61	48	Broadcastle	58 †	....	1.0	1.8	∞
57	48	Brooks Service	55	....	....	0.9	....
201	121	CMG Gp	195 †	-3	....	1.5	....
178	134	Capita Group	178 †	....	2.5	1.4	30.4
71	51	Castart Plc	58½	....	....	2.2	16.4
185	115	Chiltern Capital	179	....	....	....	....
25	15	Chrysalis	22	....	....	....	....
1150	758	Chubb Sec	1063	-5	....	1.8	22.5
12	6	Comac	11	....	....	1.8	31.2
6	6	Corp Services	6	....	0.2	0.7	∞
1	1	Crypto Cmlg	1	....	....	....	....
1	1	Curr	1	....	....	....	....
1	1	Dash Service	1½	....	....	4.1	∞
5	4	Db Facts	5	....	4.7	6.2	∞
18	11	Gardiner	16 †	....	....	3.5	11.7
1	1	Hays	1	....	....	....	....
1	1	Hogg Robinson	1	....	....	3.2	19.5
1	1	Holmes Protects	1	....	....	....	2.6
97	67	Hurth Wtamp	89½	+1½	....	1.7	24.9
1	1	ISS B Dkr	2½	....	....	6.8	....
1	1	Inchcape	1	....	....	3.7	....
1	1	Johnson Clean	1	....	27.0	3.4	∞
1	1	Lep	1	....	....	....	....
1	1	Manx Gp	1	....	4.8	1.4	25.4
1	1	Manpower	1	....	....	....	....
1	1	Michael Page	1	....	2.1	3.5	∞
1	1	Perrotts	1	....	8.0	4.2	4.1
1	1	Prime Properties	1	....	....	....	....
1	1	Pronsdict	1	....	....	6.3	....
1	1	RCO	1	....	15.2	4.8	13.1
1	1	REA	1	....	2.0	2.3	....
1	1	Read Executive	1	....	....	4.8	....
1	1	Reliance Secs	1	....	4.5	4.8	31.0
1	1	Rentokil	1	....	2.8	1.5	∞
1	1	Rolfe & Nolan	1	....	....	3.0	21.1
1	1	Sahgeon (C)	1	....	....	2.8	17.3
1	1	Secs Portfolio	1	....	0.8	2.0	15.9
1	1	Select Appts	1	....	....	....	....
1	1	Serco Gp	1	....	17.0	1.5	∞
1	1	Staff Care	1	....	....	10.6	2.4
1	1	Sketchley	1	....	....	3.2	26.5
1	1	Warner Howard	1	....	8.6	2.5	17.5
1	1	Welpac	1	....	....	....	....
1	1	Wills Gp	1	....	....	1.9	19.2

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

220	210	Allied Colloids	2½	-1	....	2.0	34.5
1	1	Amersham	1	-10	....	1.5	32.6
1	1	Anglo Ute	1	-½	....	....	....
1	1	BASF Ord	1	-2½	....	3.4	....
1	1	BTP	1	-8	....	3.8	23.1
1	1	Bayer DM50	1	-40½	....	2.3	....
1	1	Bogden	1	+4	1.5	1.5	13.3
1	1	Brent Chems	1	-1	....	4.5	....
1	1	Br Bio-Tech	1	-5	....	....	....
1	1	Caird Gp	1	....	....	....	27.1
1	1	Cammical (W)	1	....	7.2	5.3	∞
1	1	Courtaulds	1	+4	....	3.3	11.3
1	1	Croda	1	-24	....	3.0	16.9
1	1	Docdies	1	....	4.6	4.6	∞
1	1	Ellis & Everard	1	....	....	3.7	20.6
1	1	Euro Colour	1	....	0.8	3.7	19.9
1	1	Halstead (J)	1	....	....	2.5	10.8
1	1	Hickson	1	....	....	4.9	∞
1	1	Horsley	1	-28½	....	2.7	....
1	1	Holliday Chem	1	....	....	2.5	∞
1	1	ICI	1	....	....	4.2	15.7
1	1	Laporte	1	....	....	3.4	19.2
1	1	Lebon	1	....	....	3.4	14.0
1	1	MTM	1	....	....	2.5	....
1	1	Norsk Hydro	1	....	....	1.5	∞
1	1	Peerson Zoch	1	....	....	2.8	15.1
1	1	-do- 'A'	1	....	....	2.9	14.3
1	1	Pilkington	1	....	....	3.8	19.7
1	1	Povair	1	....	....	1.5	24.5
1	1	Sutcliffe Speak	1	....	....	....	....

DRAPERY, STORES

102	47	Alexon	47	-13	....	....	....
268	173	Allders	220	+1	....	3.3	17.3
410	257	Argos Plc	358½	+1½	....	2.8	∞
25	8	Ashley Group	9½	....	....	2.8	....
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	82	....	0.1	0.2	....
357	228	Asprey	328	....	5.2	2.0	21.2
190	94	Austin Reed	182	....	....	1.7	....
168	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	151	....	....	5.0	15.2
150	94	Bentalls	132	....	1.9	1.8	....
278	121	Bentorware	120	+6	....	3.0	15.9
47	22	Blacks Leis	41	....	2.2	6.9	....
267½	133	Body Shop	220	+4	....	1.0	28.4
16½	2½	Brown & Jackson	3	....	....	2.8	....
491	318	Brown (N)	458	....	....	2.0	26.9
69½	51	Burton	59½	....	....	4.4	....
248	126	Cantors	197 †	....	....	2.5	27.4
350	295	Church	308 †	....	13.0	4.1	∞
163	97	Clinton Cards	153	....	4.7	3.0	∞
287	212	Coats Viyella	235 †	-2	....	4.3	18.0
120	75	Colmn'vision+	75	....	5.6	6.2	15.1
154	154	Corp Capitals	161	....	....	4.3	15.5
935	574	Courts Furnish	865 †	-3	5.6	0.8	10.8
210	115	Crown Eyes	190	....	7.5	4.9	13.0
137	99	Dairy Farm Int	101½	+½	....	3.5	∞
109½	51½	Dewhirst (J)	105½	+½	0.8	1.0	35.3
203	180	Dixons Grp	203	-4	....	3.5	∞
21	8	ERA Gp	20	....	....	....	....
580	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	580	....	16.0	3.5	19.9
284	71	Essex Furn	268 †	....	....	1.9	42.1
273	203	Etam	227	....	2.0	3.9	12.8
630	499	Fine Art Dev	598	-1	13.0	3.2	16.5
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	50	....	....	....	....
713	498	Formmaster	708	....	14.5	2.6	12.9
180	24	French Connec	135	-1	....	....	4.0
74	43	Gent SR	70 †	....	....	4.0	21.7
104	23	Goldsmiths Gp	104	....	0.3	0.4	....
659	334	GUS	591 †	+3	....	2.5	18.0
40	21	Hampden Grps	25	....	....	5.0	....
277	30	Hardware	80	-1	....	....	....
33½	20	Hebrew Plc	30	....	2.0	6.5	12.5
110	29	Heritage	90	....	....	....	....
91	35	Honeysuckle	78 †	....	....	4.1	11.1
211	63	Jacques Vert	188 †	....	....	2.3	14.4
783	496	Kingfisher	557	....	....	2.4	18.7
88	62½	Leslie Wise Gp	78 †	....	....	6.6	16.0
685	498	Liberty	530	....	7.2	1.7	62.8
380	241	Lloyds Chem	368 †	....	....	2.8	17.2
180	120	MFI	161	-3	....	3.0	23.2
4615	311	Marks Spencer	4177½	....	....	3.2	19.7
680	445	Menzies (John)	639 †	....	....	2.2	16.7
288	135	Moss Bros	283	....	5.5	2.3	14.0
1553	1394	Next	1331	+6	....	3.0	13.1
58	15	Oliver (G)	57	-1	....	....	61.3
197	197	Oriflame Int	265	-5	....	4.6	13.0
24	9	Peacock	20	-1½	....	....	....
1855	955	Pilkes	1555	....	5.1	2.5	18.2
298	209	Rhino Grps	37	+½	....	2.7	....
209	120	Rosebys	176 †	-2	4.6	3.3	∞
181	130	Sherwood Gp	135	+3	....	2.7	∞
132	93	Smith	120	+3	....	3.3	∞
41	11	Signet Group	37½	....	....	1.7	....
545	400	Smith WH 'A'	524 †	-1	....	3.6	16.9
127	83	-do- B	120†	....	....	3.1	19.4
267½	133	Speckleyns	14	....	....	....	....
12	6½	Stanthorne	12	....	....	2.7	22.5
198	106	T & S Stores	191	-3	6.1	4.1	∞
278	121	Tie Rack	141	....	1.0	0.8	21.1
365	160	Time Products	348	....	7.7	2.2	17.8
165	103	Moltstone Elect	141 †	....	6.8	6.1	13.2
1265	402	Verdnone	437	+2	....	2.5	20.3
45	27	Vinci	41 †	....	1.2	3.9	∞
487	282	Scottish Power	407½	-5½	....	3.6	15.0
415	218	Seebeard	337	....	....	3.8	10.5
825	469	Sth Wales	697	+10	....	4.2	10.7
743	450	Sth Western	657	+6	....	4.8	9.7
1035	606	Southern Elec	868	+18	....	4.2	12.1
729½	455	Yorkshire Elec	662 †	+18	....	4.2	12.1

ELECTRICALS

187	134	ACT Group	175	....	....	3.6	17.6
269	212	Acal	261 †	....	....	3.2	19.8
540	385	Admiral	535 †	....	6.3	1.5	∞
190	104	Alba	178 †	+1	....	3.4	20.2
18	10	Alphameric	2c	....	....	....	....
35	22	Amstrad	29½	....	....	1.8	....
128	61	App Holos	97	....	....	....	....
63	9	Arlen	28	-1	....	....	....
95	35½	Astec	88	....	....	1.1	∞
271	220	Aztec	244	....	....	1.5	29.0
293	224	Beales Hunter	267	....	....	4.4	16.5
9	2	Bruguer & Found	2½	....	....	....	....
478	319	BICC	438	-3	....	5.7	31.1
468	318	Black	444 †	....	....	2.6	19.3
1700	730	Borland=	800	....	....	....	....
384	270	Brantnorpe	331 †	....	6.9	2.5	∞
4899	376	BT	401	+3	....	5.0	19.4
3725	2694	BT PrF	2805	+4	....	5.0	19.0
20	9½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	16	....	0.1	0.8	....
160	48	Burnfield	64 †	+2	....	4.8	49.6
545	334½	Cable Wireless	445	+3	....	2.1	23.3
35½	11½	Chloride	33½	....	....	....	....
276	229	CML Micro=	273	....	4.7	2.2	19.8
74	54	Comput People	181	....	....	1.1	∞
202	108½	Cray Elect	172 †	-1	....	1.3	16.7
447	263	Cristolay	427	-1	....	1.4	24.6
561	414	Delta	539 †	+3	....	3.4	∞
580	358	Dennison Elc	573	....	....	1.4	18.4
320	305	Domlgo	475 †	....	....	2.1	20.4
77	48	Dowding Mills	72	....	....	4.4	30.4
1650	865	Druck=	1425	-30	10.3	0.9	28.6
389	358	Electrocomps	522	-3	....	2.0	29.4
2304	1564	El Data Plc	1854	-3	....	1.2	15.8
175	43	Electrnt House	143 †	....	....	1.4	20.5
35	10½	Emess	32 †	....	0.1	0.4	∞
810	442	Eurotherm	779 †	+2	....	1.5	26.5
212	108	FKI	196	-6	....	2.1	28.7
650	340	Farnell Elect	579	....	....	1.4	30.7
91	23	Feedback=	84	....	....	1.2	19.7
338	101	First Tech	301	....	....	0.8	25.1
270	81	Forward Gps	265	....	4.0	2.0	17.3
33½	13½	Forward Tech	33½	....	....	0.9	12.0
367½	264	GEC	291 †	-2½	10.4	4.3	14.5
199	132	Gransby	163 †	....	....	2.1	∞
14½	7	Gresham=	14	....	....	0.9	....
92	35	Hilderex	43	....	0.5	1.5	....
193	118	Ind Control	156 †	....	....	3.7	13.9
388	328	Jones Stroud	340 †	....	....	3.3	13.7
147	26	Kalamazoo	126	....	2.7	2.7	28.3
19	8	Kembrey	10½	....	0.1	1.8	....
396	260	Kenwood App	368	+3	....	2.6	20.7
298	47	Kewill Sys=	254	....	....	....	....
208	103	Kode	128	....	6.0	5.8	∞
60	16	Laser Sys=	25	....	....	....	....
368	95	LEMEs	95	....	0.7	1.0	13.4
300	205	Lec Refrig	273	-5	....	9.0	4.1
1	1	Logica	1	....	....	....	....
1	1	Logica	1	-5	....	1.8	32.6
1	1	LPA Ind=	47	....	....	....	....
1	1	MK Data Magnet	204 †	-1	....	3.4	22.7
1	1	Macro 4	155 †	....	....	2.7	19.7
1	1	Marks Spencer	4177½	....	....	3.2	19.7
1	1	Menzies (John)	639 †	....	....	2.2	16.7
1	1	Micro Focus	928	....	....	....	8.9
1	1	Microgen Hld	144 †	....	....	6.1	14.9
1	1	Microvitec	33	....	....	....	....
1	1	Misys	513 †	+2	....	1.8	18.7
1	1	Mitel	308	-17	....	....	....
1	1	MMT Comps=	177	-1	....	2.8	26.1
1	1	Molynx	24	....	....	1.0	6.9
1	1	MTL Instr=	283 †	....	....	4.1	18.4
1	1	Modstone Elect	141 †	....	....	3.0	11.3
1	1	Murray Ent	130	....	....	1.9	25.6
1	1	NYNEX	241½	-4½	....	....	....
1	1	Neomatics	120	....	....	2.7	20.0
1	1	Newmark (L)	55	....	....	....	....
1	1	Norbain=	319	....	....	0.6	24.6
1	1	Northamber	55	....	....	2.7	22.5
1	1	Oceonics	7½	....	....	....	....
1	1	Oxford Inst	320	-2	4.6	1.8	22.0
1	1	P & P	73 †	+½	....	1.4	17.5
1	1	Peek	84	+2½	....	5.2	14.0
1	1	Pegasus=	204	+1	....	3.1	22.1
1	1	Philips Fl 4%	1100	....	....	5.8	....
1	1	-do- Lmp Nr	1725	-31½	....	0.9	∞
1	1	Phoenix Tek=	353	....	....	....	....
1	1	Pilco	135 †	+2	....	1.6	26.1
1	1	-do- 'A' Voting	125 †	+2	....	1.6	27.2
1	1	Plasmec=	80	+2	3.0	4.3	∞
1	1	Premac	112	....	....	2.5	12.4
1	1	Prisma	223	-3	....	2.5	17.4
1	1	Racal Elect	209	....	4.2	2.5	12.4
1	1	Radamec	43	....	....	4.4	9.2
1	1	Redifon	31	....	0.4	1.8	∞
1	1	Reel Time=	104	....	....	2.4	14.1
1	1	Sage Gp	223	-1	....	2.4	16.1
1	1	Sanderson Elec	323	+3	9.9	3.8	13.8
1	1	Scantronic	78	-1	3.1	5.1	20.8
1	1	Scholes Grp	190 †	+9	....	7.1	12.7
1	1	Sema Gp	395	....	3.1	1.0	∞
1	1	Servomex	270	....	0.4	3.0	∞
1	1	Silverman	43	....	....	2.9	....
1	1	Sondtrordx	27	....	....	3.7	18.3
1	1	Spectrum	2662	+75	....	1.4	14.5
1	1	TDK	2940½	+34½	....	1.1	22.4
1	1	TDI Circuits=	12½	....	....	....	....
1	1	Telemetrix	198	....	1.1	1.0	18.8
1	1	Telequip	280	+12	....	1.2	24.5
1	1	Thorn EMI	1154	+20	....	3.5	12.9
1	1	Thorpe FW	190	+5	....	1.8	22.2
1	1	Total Systems=	35	....	1.5	5.4	6.2
1	1	Tunstall	258	....	....	1.5	20.7
1	1	Unilech	114 †	-1	....	....	....
1	1	Vardy	12½	....	....	....	....
1	1	Vistec	29½	....	0.3	1.0	17.4
1	1	Vodafone	532	....	....	1.3	23.1
1	1	Volex	462	....	10.1	4.9	10.0
1	1	Western Selecm	26	....	0.2	1.3	....
1	1	Wholesale Figs	125 †	+2	11.7	4.5	34.5

ELECTRICITY

717	389	East Midlands	626	+10	....	4.1	11.1
1099	799	Eastern Elect	962	+12	....	3.8	12.6
4985	304	Hydro-Elect	384	-4	....	3.6	13.5
1730½	904	London Elect	1040	+11	....	3.3	11.6
850	458	Manweb	728	+13	....	3.8	9.1
787	4245	Midlands Elec	643	+15	....	4.1	10.2
1154	809	National Power	958	-1	....	3.0	11.3
808	440	Northern El


PETER TREVINOR

ADWEST, the engineering group, is to split the roles of chairman and chief executive. Fred Grant, right, who holds both posts, is retiring. From next month, the new chairman will be Denis Filer, who has been a non-executive director for three years, and the chief executive will be Graham Menzies, left, currently managing director. The company has increased the interim dividend by 5 per cent to 2.1p a share, payable from earnings up 8.6 per cent to 3.8p. Pre-tax profits in the half-year to December 31 rose 21 per cent to £3.93 million. In October, the company raised £22 million through a rights issue.

Bardon calls off sale over losses of £47m

BY MARTIN BARROW
CITY NEWS EDITOR

BARDON Group, the quarry products company that incurred losses of £47.9 million last year, said negotiations for the planned sale of Civil & Marine, the dredging aggregates company, have been terminated.

Peter Tom, chief executive of Bardon, said it was not in the interests of shareholders to proceed with the sale while the company's European markets had been experiencing a severe downturn from the second half of 1993.

Mr Tom said Civil & Marine, which contributed operating profits of £3.3 million in the 12 months, had "considerable" potential.

Bardon's heavy pre-tax loss, which compared with a deficit of £40.3 million in 1992, was struck after an exceptional charge of £60 million against the assets of Civil & Marine. The charge was announced at a £72 million rights issue in July, when shareholders were told the business would soon be sold.

Mr Tom said the board's strategy remains to reduce debt levels further. Borrowings at year-end were £233 million, representing gearing of 66 per cent. The net interest charge was £16.7 million, up from £14.5 million previously.

As promised at the time of the rights issue, there is a final dividend of 1.2p a share, which maintains the total dividend at 2p. With losses per share almost unchanged at 12.5p (losses of 12.4p), the dividend is uncovered but Mr Tom said it is being paid "in the expectation of improving financial performance from trading and from the benefits of rationalisation".

The company said it made a reasonable start to the present year in Britain, with volumes slightly above budget and prices firming. Despite concern over proposed cuts in road expenditure, better results are expected in 1994.

In America the company has greater confidence in the outlook than 12 months ago, although exceptionally harsh weather in January and February has meant a slow start to the year in some regions.

Bardon shares rose 1p to 50p, against last year's rights issue price of 40p.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Profits reach record level at Macfarlane

COST controls, coupled with improved trading conditions in the UK, helped Macfarlane Group, the Glasgow packaging group, lift profits to record levels. The company increased pre-tax profits for the year to December 31 to £12.7 million, compared with £10.1 million last time. The 25 per cent leap in profits was achieved on the back of an 11 per cent rise in sales to £96.7 million.

Lord Macfarlane of Bearsden, the chairman, said profits had improved as a result of "the gentle upturn in the UK economy". The total dividend was lifted 20.5 per cent to 3.84p by way of a final dividend of 2.4p. The dividend was paid from earnings of 11.25p, up 28 per cent from last time.

Lloyd Thompson up

SHARES of Lloyd Thompson, the UK insurance broker, lost ground yesterday despite a 17 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits to £9.6 million. The shares fell 11p to 283p reflecting the City's disappointment that in the six months to December 31 brokerage income had only risen 3 per cent to £20.2 million. Stripping out currency benefits and brokerage income fell 5 per cent. John Lloyd, chairman, said it had been hit by the continued tough trading conditions coupled with a £1 million drop in reinsurance income to £5.8 million. The interim dividend was lifted 20 per cent to 2.4p.

TransTec optimistic

GEOFFREY Robinson, chairman of TransTec, the engineering group, sounded an optimistic note on prospects as he unveiled a 19 per cent advance in full-year profits. Mr Robinson said: "We expect continuing progress in the current year." Pre-tax profits rose to £11.2 million (£9.45 million), as turnover advanced 36 per cent to £145.4 million. Most divisions made progress, but the company felt the effects of harsh conditions gripping the European automotive industry. The total dividend is raised to 3.3p (3.2p), with a final payout of 2p. Earnings climbed to 8.9p (8.6p) a share.

Johnston still in red

ONE-OFF charges kept Johnston Group in the red at the full-year stage, though pre-tax losses at the specialist civil and mechanical engineer were trimmed to £2.6 million last year (£4.68 million loss). Operating profit from continuing operations rose to £3.41 million (£871,000), on total turnover of £130 million (£117.4 million). The company suffered a loss of £2.79 million on the sale of Johnston Fluid Power, the hydraulics business, and a loss on its operations of £1.7 million. The final dividend is maintained 1p, making 2p (3.25p) for the year. The loss per share is to 33.15p (35.65p loss).

Ulster TV advances

THE achievement of Ulster Television's highest-ever share of total ITV advertising revenue helped propel the station's pre-tax profits 21 per cent ahead to £5.07 million in 1993, the first year of the new licence round. Shareholders gain with a final dividend of 8.75p, which raises the year's total to 15p. John McGuckian, the chairman, said the company's market share of revenue had continued to grow in the first quarter of 1994, but warned shareholders that it was premature to project that this rate would be sustained for the rest of the year. The shares added 6p to 667p.

Retailer seeks foreign growth

BY OUR CITY STAFF

LITTLEWOODS, Britain's biggest private company, is seeking acquisitions overseas to offset limited growth opportunities here.

Barry Dale, chief executive, said Britain was not a growing economy in the long term. The group was therefore looking for retail acquisitions, particularly in the Far East, as well as opportunities to expand its chain-store format in emerging markets such as Russia and India. The group is able to fund a substantial acquisition — an investment of £400 million would only push gearing to about 30 per cent.

The group unveiled a jump in pre-tax profits from £67.3 million to £117.2 million in the year to December 31. Excluding exceptionals, which depressed last year's figure, profit on continuing businesses rose 18 per cent from £102.1 million to £120.6 million.

Sales at Littlewoods Home Shopping, the core catalogue business, beat £1 billion for the first time, with profits up 22 per cent to £68.6 million (£56.3 million).

The 129 chain-store outlets suffered from intensifying competition and the conversion of the food halls to the Iceland format, with sales slipping to £666 million (£696 million).

Pentos launches cash call after swing to £70m loss

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

■ Lenders have agreed to provide two-year secured facilities, as the new management of Pentos seeks to restore financial stability and enhance sales and profit margins

PENTOS is asking shareholders for £45 million to shore up its battered balance sheet as the struggling retail group plunged into the red by more than £70 million last year.

The group, which includes Dillons bookshops, Ryman stationery stores and the Athena poster and card shops, made a loss before tax and exceptional items of £14.1 million in the year to December 31 against a profit of £7.5 million last time.

However, the bottom line was hit by £56.5 million of exceptional items, including provisions for losses on the recent disposal of Ryman Computer Stores. Pre-tax losses amounted to £70.6 million compared with a profit of £4.0 million last year.

There is no dividend as the scale of the losses has pushed the profit and loss account reserve into a deficit of £54.9 million and the directors do not expect to pay a dividend in the current year.

The group plans to seek shareholders' approval to create a reserve against which the deficit can be eliminated, so it can resume paying dividends. Net assets have fallen from £79.3 million to £21.5 million during the year.

The new team of Sir Kit McMahon, chairman, and Bill McGrath, who became chief executive after the enforced departure of Terry Maher, Pentos founder, has initiated a strategic review to put the business back on the road to recovery. The management's priority is to reduce debt from its prevailing level of £86.0 million. The board is also tapping shareholders for £45 million through a rights issue on the basis of four new shares for every three held at 25p each.

Sir Kit said the rights issue would strengthen the balance sheet and put the group in a better position to implement its new two-year sales-led strategy. Pentos' lenders have agreed to provide two-year, secured facilities of £66.7 million to fund its borrowings and working capital requirements. The new strategy includes strengthening existing management, tighter control of working capital, reducing costs, divesting non-core businesses and repositioning the brands to boost sales.

Action has been taken in some of these areas and the benefits are expected to start to filter through in the present financial year.

Trading in the first ten weeks of this year has been encouraging. Like-for-like sales at Dillons and Athena are ahead by 8 per cent and 4 per cent respectively, while turnover at Ryman has remained at last year's levels. Sales at Pentos Office Furniture are up by 10 per cent.

Tempus, page 29

Hodder reflects the power of Spielberg

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE pulling power of Steven Spielberg's multiple Oscar-winning film has sent *Schindler's List*, published by Hodder Headline, back into the bestseller lists and selling 350,000 copies since it was published as a film tie-in in February. This is more, says Tim Hely Hutchinson, the chief executive, than all the earlier sales since *Schindler's Ark*, the original book, won the Booker Prize 12 years ago.

The benefits will be seen in this financial year and are not included in Hodder's 1993 pre-tax profits of £2.61 million, up from £2.05 million, even after a raft of provisions totalling £1.87 million, arising from the merger of Hodder & Stoughton with Mr Hely Hutchinson's Headline Book Publishing business in June.

A 3.35p final dividend makes a total up from 4.5p to 5.0p, paid out of earnings per share, including exceptionals, that fell 48 per cent to 6.2p.

Mr Hely Hutchinson said the Hodder & Stoughton reorganisation should be completed by the end of May and benefits were now beginning to flow from it. Annual savings should reach £4 million by the middle of this year, which had seen an encouraging start for Hodder.

Last year's star performer was *Taken on Trust*, Terry Waite's journal of his captivity in the Lebanon, which sold 160,000 copies in hardback. This year's blockbusters look to be James Clavell's *Gai-Jin*, in paperback now, and the March paperback issue of *The Night Manager* by John Le Carré. Hodder is making the most of its latest star, the MP Edwina Currie, whose Westminster tale, *A Parliamentary Affair*, has sold 30,000 hardbacks and appears in paperback this autumn.



Tim Hely Hutchinson reaps the benefits of film tie-ins

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

BEN (BAILEY) (Fin) — Results span 18-month period.
Pre-tax: £374,000 — Loss of £443,000 reported in 1992, when dividend was 0.55p. Net asset value 46.59p, up from 45.13p
EPS: 2.51p (2.98p loss)
Div: 0.5p, mkg 1.05p

JOURDAN (THMS) (Fin) — Loss in previous year was £1.12 million and dividend was 0.75p. Gearing reduced to 19 per cent from 24 per cent
Pre-tax: £254,000
EPS: 1.29p (6.27p loss)
Div: 0.5p, mkg 1p

METSEC (Fin) — There was a £1.01 million loss in previous year. Turnover fell to £54.2 million from £60.22 million.
Pre-tax: £1.58m
EPS: 7.17p (7.4p loss)
Div: 2p, mkg 2p (nil)

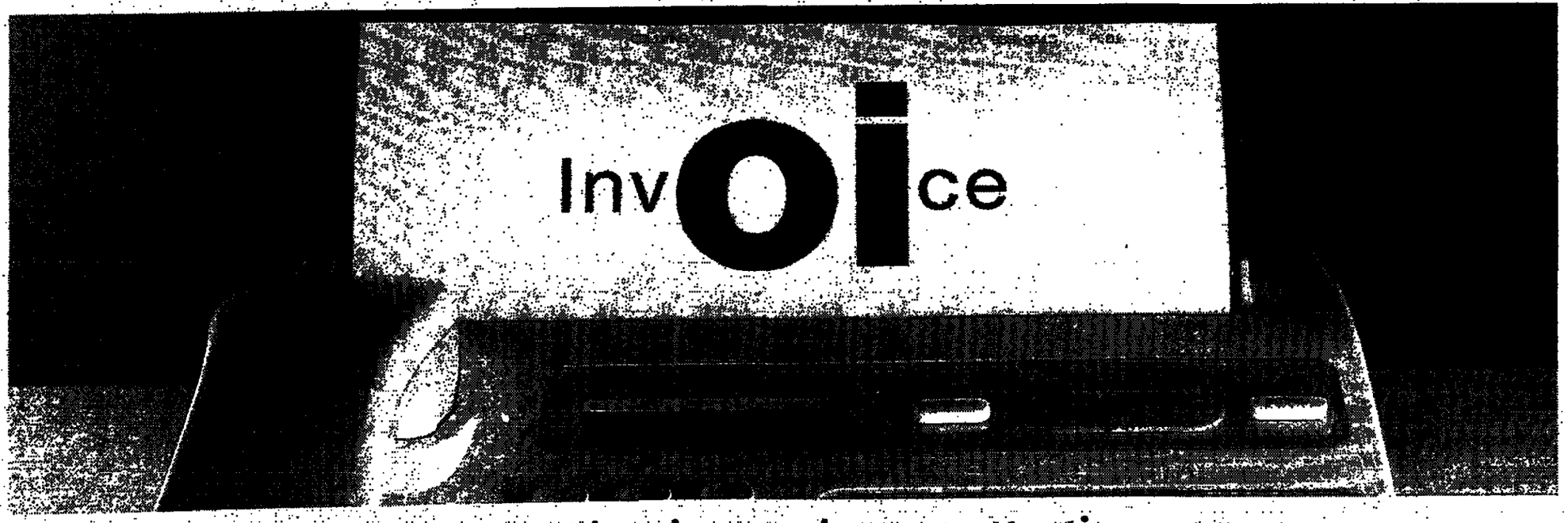
PSION (Fin) — Dividend in previous year was 2.5p. Turnover rose to £41.2 million from £35.1 million. Capital investment rose to £2.5 million
Pre-tax: £3.03m (£1.42m)
EPS: 9.14p (4.33p)
Div: 1.8p, mkg 2.8p

ROPNER (Fin) — Dividend in previous year was 8.25p. Turnover rose to £22 million from £15.5 million. Enfranchisement of non-voting shares proposed
Pre-tax: £3.98m (£3.8m)
EPS: 11.6p (11p)
Div: 4.75p, mkg 8.25p

SERVOMEX (Fin) — Dividend in previous year was 5.9p. Turnover rose to £22.7 million from £19.7 million. Company sees limited scope for volume growth
Pre-tax: £1.52m (£2.1m)
EPS: 9.4p (14.1p)
Div: 4.5p, mkg 6.4p

SUNSET & VINE (Int) — Profit in previous year was £329,000. Programming and post production continue at high level in competitive market
Pre-tax: £406,000
EPS: 4.8p (4.2p)
Div: 1.5p (1.5p)

OIS INTL INSPECTION — Final results. Group had no operating activities until it acquired the Brompton interests in December 1992
Pre-tax: £2.2m (£1.74m)
EPS: 5.1p
Div: 1.4p, mkg 2.1p



A faxed invoice gets instant attention

Why put off till tomorrow's post what you can fax today? Invoice your customers instantly by fax, chase payment with a phone call and you can cut debtor days by up to a half. We want your business to get the most from today's communications. And we've got all kinds of ideas and products to help you do just that. For more information, Free*fone 0800* 800 800.

BT
We go further to bring you closer

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
AIB Internet Rd, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 1HZ
0895 259 783

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Grofund Amer	165.60	174.50	+ 0.80	...
Grofund Equity	238.00	251.00	+ 0.90	1.82
Grofund Euro	200.70	211.30	+ 0.70	0.01
Grofund Expr Bal	115.40	119.60	- 2.20	1.41
Grofund Gilt	76.25	78.61	+ 0.07	4.47
Grofund Japan	189.10	199.10	+ 1.40	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
Equity & Law Hse, Corpn St, Coventry
0203 555 231

General Acc	521.60	554.90#	- 1.60	2.36
General Inc	466.10	495.90#	- 1.30	2.36
UK Growth Acc	352.70	375.30	+ 1.10	2.55
UK Growth Inc	347.00	362.80	+ 0.80	2.55
Higher Inc Acc	654.50	696.30	- 0.70	3.52
Higher Inc Inc	391.40	416.40	- 0.40	3.52
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	182.60	192.80#	+ 1.40	6.05
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	91.21	96.34#	- 0.67	6.05
Nth America	257.00	273.50	- 2.50	...
Far East	357.20	380.00	+ 4.50	...
Europe	271.40	288.80#	...	0.69
Int'l Bond	69.96	74.11	- 0.19	2.74
Int'l Fndmtls Acc	93.98	105.30#	- 0.20	4.46
Int'l Fndmtls Inc	74.21	78.96#	- 0.15	4.46
Global Opps	83.31	90.76	- 0.51	...
Balanced Acc	53.34	56.75#	- 0.07	2.51
Balanced Inc	52.86	56.24#	- 0.07	2.51

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth 0345 717 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	131.10	139.10#	+ 0.30	5.75
High Inc Equity	105.40	176.90	+ 0.10	4.45
Worldwide Bond	272.50	288.90	- 0.40	3.63
Capital Growth				
American Growth	298.90	319.70	- 2.40	.37
Asian Pacific	100.00	362.90	+ 5.50	...
Assets & Earnings	268.40	285.30	+ 0.20	1.99
Comdty & Energy	125.80	133.80#	- 3.70	...
1992 Enterprise	92.98	99.44	+ 0.11	1.70
Euro Capital Inc	151.50	140.60	+ 0.40	.69
General	220.10	244.80#	- 0.20	2.22
Japan	133.40	142.70	+ 0.50	...
Mastermix	143.50	153.50	- 0.50	.98
UK Growth Dist	141.30	150.30	- 1.20	...
Us Emerging Cos	141.30	150.30	- 1.20	...
Income & Growth	391.30	416.30	- 0.20	3.15
Ethical	73.81	78.52	- 0.09	2.17
International	116.70	124.20	- 0.50	.25
Dividend & Growth	61.83	65.38	+ 0.14	4.27
Global Gwth & Inc	65.01	69.24	+ 0.08	2.12

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
14 Melville St, Edinburgh EH3 7NS
031 220 0733

UK Small Cos	£17.79	£18.52	...	...

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ
0800 833 580

Aberdeen Portfolio	61.95	63.07	+ 0.05	0.78
Amer Inc & Growth	45.11	47.38	- 0.14	0.65
Cash	50.14	50.147	...	4.49
European	106.40	114.90#	- 0.40	...
European Income	101.50	107.80#	+ 0.50	1.38
Exempt	£10.45	£11.02	+ 0.01	5.65
Extra Income	53.38	58.40#	+ 0.11	4.46
Far East Emg Econ	108.60	117.30	+ 0.40	0.54
Fixed Interest	25.20	26.90#	+ 0.02	6.82
Fund Inv Tst	183.40	192.80	+ 0.60	0.86
Japan	202.60	218.70	...	...
Latin American	73.70	78.44	- 1.50	0.61
Pacific	71.12	76.16	+ 0.25	0.35
Property Share	71.81	76.46	- 0.39	1.70
UK Emerging Cos	68.98	73.61	+ 0.05	1.68
UK Growth	94.75	98.29	+ 0.11	2.42
World Growth	75.35	80.43	+ 0.11	0.67
Ethical	94.98	98.94	- 0.27	2.54
Aberdeen Gilt Inc	51.38	51.387	- 0.08	7.92

ACUMA FUND MANAGERS LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex 0277 600 336

UK Equity Income	93.95	99.95	- 0.68	3.11
UK Equity Growth	84.09	89.41	- 0.63	2.16
European	68.36	72.72	- 0.14	0.74
Nth American	67.89	72.22	- 0.27	0.97
Far Eastern	74.08	78.81	+ 0.14	0.41
Money	65.61	65.61	+ 0.01	3.93
Fixed Interest	71.65	76.21	- 0.35	6.26
Index Linked Gilt	65.57	69.76	+ 0.09	1.15

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
22 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF
031 549 3232

British Growth	70.09	74.57	+ 0.42	2.51
British Income	79.19	84.25	+ 0.35	3.48
Select Portfolio	88.16	93.79	- 0.17	...

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
191 King's Road Brentwood CM14 4DR
0452 305 958

Amity Income	76.24	80.89	- 1.07	1.99
Income Builder Inc	68.95	72.95	- 0.23	2.77

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL
IFA dlg: 0793 618 366 Client dlg: 0793 514 514

Balanced Trust	193.60	203.80	+ 0.60	3.98
Growth & Income	236.90	253.20#	- 0.40	2.98
Capital	429.20	458.80	+ 0.50	1.53
Balanced	700.20	748.50	- 0.70	3.42
Accumulator	£12.38	£13.23	- 1.00	2.80
Income Trusts				
American Income	48.94	52.31	+ 0.23	3.23
High Income	415.20	443.80#	+ 0.10	3.40
Equity Income	235.40	251.60#	- 0.30	3.47
High Yield	257.70	275.40	...	3.41
Gov Securities	53.80	55.68	+ 0.11	5.13
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	136.40	145.80#	- 1.00	0.21
European Growth	34.65	36.97	- 0.04	0.43
International	165.70	176.80	...	0.22
Japan	233.40	248.90#	+ 2.80	0.01
Pacific	422.10	451.20	+ 3.40	0.17
Secs of America	425.70	452.90#	- 2.50	0.52
Wwide Asset Val	49.30	52.66	+ 0.10	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Values	529.00	565.50	- 0.60	2.21
Conv & Gilt	47.81	51.10	- 0.21	3.95
Smaller Cos	180.20	192.60#	+ 0.30	0.84
2nd Smaller Cos	172.10	183.90#	+ 0.20	0.97
Recovery	147.10	157.20	- 0.10	1.77
Mort Min & Cnty	157.30	168.00	- 0.20	1.65
Overs Earnings	361.00	385.90#	- 1.30	1.82
Technology	159.10	170.00	- 1.10	0.01
UK Special Sits	460.80	492.50#	...	1.95
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Manor Royal, Crawley RH10 2QP 0293 526 911				
Control Out Pens	102.70	108.60	...	1.45
Founders Pensn Pens	64.48	66.99	...	4.00

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
28 St John's Sq, London EC1M 4AE
071 251 6767

Capital	71.41	75.97	- 0.42	2.68
International	64.59	68.71	...	0.48

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8EY
031 222 4242

America	313.80	338.60	- 6.60	...
Bond	116.30	122.20	- 0.80	6.39
Brit Smlr Cos	103.30	109.90	- 0.10	0.92
Conv & Gen	64.84	69.20#	- 0.05	5.02
Energy	435.00	472.00	- 1.70	0.22
Europe	235.90	250.80	- 0.80	0.46
Euro Smlr Cos	105.70	112.20	- 0.10	0.85
Income Growth	353.40	379.30#	- 1.70	4.01
Japan	344.60	368.60	+ 1.20	...
Pacific	108.00	114.90	+ 1.50	0.70
UK Smlr Cos	52.30	55.64	- 0.03	0.78
Japan Fd	808.90	832.40	+ 8.10	...
Mngd Fd	174.70	185.90	- 0.50	2.70

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
36 Queen St, London EC4R 1BN 071 489 8873

Brit & Overs	288.60	303.80	...	1.21
Capital Growth	117.50	123.80	...	2.15
Wwide Opps	185.50	195.30	...	0.46

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
11 Broadway, Stratford E15 4BJ 081 534 5544
Balanced Trusts

Dist Inv Fd Inc	349.30	363.90	+ 0.50	2.42
Europeas Bd Inc	93.08	98.44	+ 0.28	7.37
Income	78.12	81.30	+ 0.05	3.92
Financial	73.86	78.78	- 0.06	5.31
500.00	469.50	502.10#	+ 1.40	2.07
General	271.00	288.90#	+ 0.40	2.40
Property	248.70	266.00	...	5.43
Trustee	186.70	198.70	- 0.10	1.99
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.00	100.00#	+ 0.01	4.28
Extra Income	119.60	127.90	...	3.84
Gilt & Fxd Int	58.26	60.21#	+ 0.09	8.09
Income	541.70	579.40	+ 1.40	3.76
Income Builder	65.38	69.59#	- 0.26	4.44
Intl Income	67.55	71.83	- 0.03	2.94
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	115.90	122.80#	+ 0.30	2.39
Leisure	123.10	131.70	- 1.10	0.78
Recovery	423.00	448.20	- 1.00	2.31
Smlr Cos Inc	44.24	47.45	+ 0.18	1.71
Special Sits	284.10	303.80	+ 0.60	1.46
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	134.60	142.60	- 1.80	0.13
Asst Acc	260.50	277.10	- 1.60	1.39
Asst Inc	163.00	173.40	- 1.00	1.39
Euro Gwth Inc	148.70	158.40	- 0.90	0.31
Japan & Gen Inc	195.30	208.80#	+ 1.40	...
Japan Spec Sits	87.63	92.83	+ 0.94	...
Under Tech Inc	78.79	83.73	+ 0.26	0.33
Worldwide	172.60	183.60	...	0.25

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ
081 658 6000

American Growth	100.50	106.40	- 0.60	...
Amer Smlr Cos	135.90	145.30	- 2.60	...
Cash Trust	90.34	90.34	...	4.70
Convertibles	91.48	95.79#	+ 0.09	5.80
Eastern	266.90	284.10	+ 2.90	1.00
Equity Income	90.91	96.71	+ 0.17	4.80
European Growth	204.50	213.30	+ 0.80	1.00
Europe	218.90	233.80	+ 1.30	1.00
German Growth	70.77	75.38	+ 0.19	0.70
Global Bond	69.53	70.24	+ 0.16	5.30
Global Growth	128.90	137.00	- 0.30	...
Japan Growth	222.70	236.00	+ 0.10	...
Japan Smaller	193.90	204.30	+ 0.70	...
Korea Trust	72.94	81.52	- 1.74	...
Portfolio	134.20	143.30#	- 0.40	1.60
UK Growth	92.57	98.47	- 0.10	2.40
UK Smaller Cos	96.39	103.30	- 0.10	1.60
Select Managers	79.15	80.55	- 0.17	2.00

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
20-24 Old Street, London EC1V 9HL
071 250 3000

Intl Growth Port Inc	81.27	86.46	+ 0.25	...
Special Oppor Inc	85.45	90.23	+ 0.34	...

BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD
5 Gilmore St, London EC1A 9DE 071 238 6441

Special Sits	180.20	192.70	- 1.60	0.64
Dividend	82.65	87.72	- 1.42	3.77
Inv Gth & Inc	285.70	296.80	+ 0.90	2.25
UK & Gen	65.17	68.31#	+ 0.21	0.92
Fund of Funds	66.37	71.53#	+ 0.17	..

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
50 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR
041 223 6839

Balanced Growth	107.75	114.06	- 0.34	1.27
Smaller Cos	108.13	111.25	- 0.12	0.97
Higher Yield	44.97	47.59	- 0.08	2.42
American Gth Inc	37.45	81.59#	- 1.18	..
European Growth	138.15	144.07#	+ 0.39	..
Global Bond Inc	29.10	30.78	- 0.01	5.90
Mngd Ptfolio Inc	44.84	46.90#	- 0.13	0.94
Int Spec Opps	133.30	130.48	- 1.00	...
Pacific Gwth	131.52	139.17	+ 1.44	...
Formerly LAS				
European	93.02	98.43	- 0.30	0.32
Extra Income	25.52	27.01	+ 0.13	3.19
Far East	31.91	33.77	- 0.37	0.26
Income & Gwth	77.56	82.07	+ 0.06	3.64
Intl Growth	58.89	62.32	+ 0.18	0.26
Japan	66.17	72.73	+ 0.80	...
Maximum Dist	98.69	100.70	+ 0.10	6.97
Nth Amer Equity	43.44	44.91	- 0.61	0.11
UK Equity	90.60	97.99	+ 0.22	2.17

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
Hill Freshwater St, London EC3N 5AL
071 480 7216

Short Dated Gilt	64.55	65.397	- 0.06	5.67

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH
061 837 5060

Environ	195.00	194.90	+ 0.80	1.43
UK Growth	165.40	176.00#	+ 0.30	1.95
UK Income	136.40	145.20	+ 0.40	3.98

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
0707 651 122

Can Gen Dist	185.00	196.10	- 0.20	1.85
-do- Income Dist	110.60	117.30	- 0.10	4.55
Gilt & Fxd Int	40.55	42.99#	+ 0.45	6.33

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF
061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5362

American & Gen	147.90	157.40	+ 1.30	...
European Inc	79.38	84.18	+ 0.07	0.35
Smaller Cos (+-1)	83.51	88.85#	+ 0.09	1.17
Growth	427.30	457.10#	- 0.90	2.02
Income & Growth	418.20	436.40#	- 0.40	3.54
Japan & Gen	77.44	82.39#	+ 0.10	...
Master Portfolio	£107.6	£110.1	-67.00	1.35
Special Sits	97.70	104.00	- 0.90	1.97
High Yield	£13.33	£13.75	- 1.00	4.02

CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS
Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh
031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 333 564

American Gwth Tst	37.14	39.72	- 0.19	0.22
Cash Income	50.68	50.68	...	5.09
European Growth	39.78	42.41	- 0.14	0.36
Income & Gwth Inc	27.87	29.80#	- 0.01	4.15
Intnl Gwth	31.43	33.61	- 0.06	0.55
Japan Gwth	28.87	30.87	- 0.24	...
Managed Tst Inc	48.80	52.19	- 0.14	1.54
Oriental Opps Inc	139.30	148.90	+ 2.30	...
Property Shares	42.85	45.82	- 2.00	0.60
Smaller Cos	32.02	34.24	+ 0.04	1.55
UK Growth Tst	28.87	27.66	- 0.02	2.17
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	71.50	76.47#	- 0.10	1.68
Cap Hse UK Inc	66.06	70.65	- 0.29	2.42
Exempt	23.59	24.35	...	...
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	26.80	27.80	+ 0.05	0.38
European Acc	26.96	28.83	+ 0.05	0.38
Financial	149.10	159.40	+ 0.80	1.75
Foundation	92.14	98.54#	- 0.04	2.23
German	51.27	54.83	+ 0.43	...
High Income	76.52	81.83#	- 0.06	5.40
Income	134.30	143.60	- 0.30	4.25
Intl Growth	38.32	40.98	- 0.06	...
Mngd Ptflio Inc	103.30	110.40	- 0.50	1.66
Mngd Ptflio Acc	197.40	211.10	- 0.80	1.68
Monthly Income	85.33	91.23#	- 0.35	3.79
North American	104.10	111.30	- 0.60	...
Orient	146.60	156.70	+ 2.30	...

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH
071 606 9708

Cazenove Portfolio	81.27	86.83	- 0.02	2.23
American Portfolio	89.41	95.57	+ 0.11	1.02
European Portfolio	95.52	101.80	- 0.66	0.95
Japanese Portfolio	73.26	77.86	+ 0.20	...
Pacific Portfolio	136.01	146.25	- 0.09	0.78
UK Inc & Growth	74.26	79.54	+ 0.01	3.73
Utility & Bond	53.19	55.89	+ 0.07	6.44

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5000
UK General Tst 63.76 67.82 - 0.07 2.95

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD
071 837 7867

Intl Growth	144.11	153.97	...	...
UK Growth	110.48	119.39	...	...
UK Income	116.38	126.15	...	3.72

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX
071 407 5966

Consistent UT	31.44	33.73#	...	3.20

COOKE (HENRY) UNT FUNDS LTD
1 King St, Manchester M60 3AH 0800 526 398

Growth	147.40	156.90	+ 1.20	1.62
Income	74.09	78.82	- 0.27	4.34
European	61.49	65.42	- 0.10	0.69
Recovery	130.50	148.50#	...	1.28

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3ND 071 283 9494
Equity Dist 637.40 651.50 ... 3.63

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex
0277 600 370

Fellowship Tst	71.32	76.46#	+ 0.19	1.34
Income	238.70	254.00	- 0.30	4.43
Smaller Cos	153.20	163.00	+ 0.60	1.25
Inv Portfolio	27.21	62.14	+ 0.16	1.45
High Income Port	67.58	71.90	- 0.10	4.70

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
55 Ellesmere St, London EC2M 3XS
071 489 0677

Euro Small Cos	£15.53	£15.87	...	...
Japan Small Cos	£11.08	£13.32	...	...
UK Small Cos	£18.59	£19.38	...	...
US Small Cos	£17.13	£17.59	...	...

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
66 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL
071 377 8889

Disc Inc	198.00	206.30	...	2.64

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
25 Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2900

European Gwth	265.40	280.60	+ 2.00	1.07
New Asia	210.90	227.80	+ 2.60	0.35
Japan Growth	134.60	143.20	+ 1.60	...
Jap Smlr Co	561.60	596.80	+ 7.50	...
Nth Amer	250.60	268.70	+ 1.30	0.02
Shield Asia Pac Ml	119.00	125.70	+ 1.40	0.50
UK Inc & Grth	218.50	233.20	- 0.30	3.47

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	140.60	149.60	+ 0.50	1.79
UK High Inc Inc	153.80	166.90	+ 0.80	4.81
UK Pref & Fi Inc	59.11	62.68	+ 0.07	5.00
Investment Opps	83.02	88.32	+ 0.30	1.39

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh
0345 090 526

American	123.30	131.00	- 0.60	0.13
Convertibles	23.53	25.00	- 0.10	6.60
Equity Income	130.70	138.90	- 0.50	3.60
Extra Fund	49.63	48.25	- 0.06	0.83
Financial	48.74	51.79	- 0.43	1.54
Growth & Inc	231.80	246.30#	- 1.50	3.06
High Dist	161.30	171.40	- 0.30	4.38
International	187.20	411.30	- 2.50	0.26
Int Cap Fnd	96.80	103.30	- 0.10	2.52
Latin American	47.58	50.55	- 0.54	0.25
Pacific	80.54	85.57	+ 0.35	...
Preference Share	96.49	20.63	- 0.10	8.96
Tokyo	240.40	255.10	+ 1.50	...
UK Smaller Cos	239.40	254.40	+ 0.30	0.92

ELCON LTD
Central Ct, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA
0689 20536

Elcon Trust	223.60	238.70	...	...

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU
071 373 7281

Endurance Fd	204.80	217.90	...	0.20

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QN
0296 431 400

European	80.04	84.25	- 0.09	1.69
Far Eastern	309.11	325.36	+ 2.61	1.42
High Income	135.40	142.53	...	4.24
Intl Growth	121.28	127.67#	- 0.55	1.19
North American	118.30	124.53	- 1.22	0.90
Pelican	117.38	123.51	- 0.03	2.65
Smaller Cos	76.14	80.15	...	1.86
Special Sits	92.48	97.35	+ 0.17	2.29
Tst of Inv Trs	189.46	199.43	+ 0.11	1.74

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1
071 407 5966

Smaller Cos Inc	216.02	227.11	+ 0.28	1.57
Smaller Cos Acc	377.45	393.18	+ 0.50	1.57
Recovery	58.66	59.02	- 0.24	1.93

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB
0392 412 244

Balanced	108.92	115.78	- 0.84	4.96
Capital Growth	81.16	87.04	+ 0.09	...
Fd of Inv Trs	43.26	46.28	+ 0.09	0.23
High Income	48.32	51.55	+ 0.13	8.59
Warrant	61.07	66.39#	+ 0.04	...
Zero Preference	36.61	39.85	- 0.05	...

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
16 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 228 707

Family Asset Tst	76.33	81.20	+ 0.27	2.17
Family Income Tst	50.03	53.21	+ 0.25	3.90
Family Trust	93.79	99.77	...	1.83
United Charities	259.40	275.90	...	3.02

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
130 Tonbridge Rd, Tunbridge TN11 9DZ
Callbrex Private Clients: 0800 414 161
Broker Dealings: 0800 414 181

Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	4.50
Cash Fund				
Stabiliser Growth Range				
Controlled Risk UK	34.28	35.67	- 0.03	3.17
-do- Europe	24.17	25.47	+ 0.07	4.74
-do- America	23.06	24.32	+ 0.03	0.28
-do- Acc Japan	27.28	28.95	+ 0.41	0.46
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	28.88	29.24#	- 0.03	7.56
Intl Bond	30.23	31.50	+ 0.06	5.26
Income Funds				
High Income	27.48	28.92	+ 0.02	5.01
Income Plus	119.20	126.80#	...	3.89
Inv Fd Inc	46.24	51.20	+ 0.07	1.56
Income & Gwth Inc	27.87	29.80#	- 0.01	4.15
Intnl Gwth	31.43	33.61	- 0.06	0.55
Japan Gwth	26.87	30.87	- 0.24	...
Managed Tst Inc	48.80	52.19	- 0.14	1.54
Oriental Opps Inc	139.30	148.90	+ 2.30	...
Property Shares	42.85	45.82	- 2.00	0.60
Smaller Cos	32.02	34.24	+ 0.04	1.55
UK Growth Tst	28.87	27.66	- 0.02	2.17
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	71.50	76.47#	- 0.10	1.68
Cap Hse UK Inc	66.06	70.65	- 0.29	2.42
Exempt	23.59	24.35	...	...
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	26.80	27.80	+ 0.05	0.38
European Acc	26.96	28.83	+ 0.05	0.38
Financial	149.10	159.40	+ 0.80	1.75
Foundation	92.14	98.54#	- 0.04	2.23
German	51.27	54.83	+ 0.43	...
High Income	76.52	81.83#	- 0.06	5.40
Income	134.30	143.60	- 0.30	4.25
Intl Growth	38.32	40.98	- 0.06	...
Mngd Ptflio Inc	103.30	110.40	- 0.50	1.66
Mngd Ptflio Acc	197.40	211.10	- 0.80	1.68
Monthly Income	85.33	91.23#	- 0.35	3.79
North American	104.10	111.30	- 0.60	...
Orient	146.60	156.70	+ 2.30	...

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Admin, PO Box 2001, Brentwood, Essex
CMG DR Enq: 071 454 1454 • Dlg: 0277 281 089

Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	114.10	120.80	+ 0.40	0.32
Far Eastern	181.90	195.80	+ 0.20	...
High Income	22.38	23.86#	- 0.10	10.46
Ocean Income	99.17	106.00	- 0.10	2.66
UK Growth	114.60	122.60	+ 0.70	2.40
UK Income	108.70	116.50	+ 0.30	4.55
US Smaller Cos	300.30	321.20	- 3.20	...

FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX
071 407 5966

High Inc Ent	48.19	52.33	+ 0.06	3.93
-do- Inv Fd Inc	77.14	82.64#	+ 0.18	3.78
Gilt Growth	72.56	77.19	+ 0.47	5.17
Investment Trust	91.67	97.52#	+ 0.29	0.14
UK Smaller Cos	85.36	90.81	+ 0.06	1.21

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3YT
071 374 4600

American Growth	95.36	99.77	- 1.06	...
(Accum Units)	95.36	99.77	- 1.06	...
Amer Smlr Cos	1951.70	1940.70	- 0.60	0.12
(Accum Units)	516.60	552.40	-10.10	...
Capital Tst	326.80	347.60#	- 0.10	1.31
(Accum Units)	462.30	491.70#	- 0.20	1.31
Cont Smlr Cos	65.22	68.93	+ 0.13	0.12
(Accum Units)	66.05	69.96	+ 0.13	0.12
Convertible	140.00	148.90	...	4.61
(Accum Units)	271.40	288.60	...	4.61
Emerging Markets	81.42	86.98	- 0.51	...
(Accum Units)	81.48	87.05	- 0.52	...
Eurotrust	1118.20	1187.20	...	0.02
(Accum Units)	123.20	130.90	...	0.02
Extra Income	335.10	356.40	- 1.00	3.40
(Accum Units)	485.70	516.60	- 1.50	3.40
Financial	122.30	132.50	- 0.30	0.45
(Accum Units)	139.10	147.90	- 0.30	0.45
Gilt Trust	64.34	66.34	- 0.32	5.68
(Accum Units)	85.05	87.70	- 1.08	5.68
Health Fund Inc	139.50	148.00	- 2.40



THEATRE page 34
Chaucer with a raucous touch: a staging of The Canterbury Tales goes on the road

ARTS

FESTIVALS page 35
A selection of the finest cultural jamborees in Britain during the summer



Richard Morrison calls on the Arts Council to get its act together and keep Britain's bands from drowning in debt

SOS: save our symphony orchestras



Of course it is unthinkable that the Hallé Orchestra could disappear after 137 years of music-making in Manchester. Or that the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, run by a society founded in 1849, might fold tomorrow. Or that a bank manager somewhere on the south coast would be within his rights to spoil the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's centenary by calling in the orchestra's massive overdraft. Or even that the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Simon Rattle's band, should see its adventurous plans collapse like a wonky music-stand.

Yet the unthinkable must be thought. Just one British orchestra is secure, the London Symphony, which has a unique pound-for-pound funding arrangement between the richest local authority in the country (City of London Corporation) and the Arts Council. Otherwise, from Bournemouth to Glasgow, the orchestras are sounding the same woeful theme: help us before it is too late.

Indeed, it seems to be an accepted scenario in Arts Council circles that at least one major orchestra will go under. Which only demonstrates how spineless our arts administrators have become. The Arts Council now has no music director, no secretary-general, no chairman of its music panel. Its members and officers, those that remain, wring their hands helplessly.

Earlier this year, for instance, the council set up an emergency committee to "help" the orchestras. After four weeks of deliberation the committee reported ... that there was no money to do anything! We knew that before they began. Having skewered the London orchestras last year by a mixture of mendacious manoeuvring and plain bungling, the Arts Council now seems to be killing the regional orchestras by inertia. "Blame the Government," it whimpers plaintively.

Well, that's not a bad place to start. The Government lopped £3.2 million off the Arts Council's grant last autumn, while incomprehensibly putting aside £10 million for the restoration of the Albert Memorial. Remarkably, that £10 million is equivalent to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra's grant for the next 33 years. Peter Brooke, the National Heritage Secretary, is clearly second only to Queen Victoria in his regard for the Prince Consort.

This grant reduction had a catastrophic effect on orchestras already struggling to maintain a degree of adventurous programming and educational activities. They had already maximised their box-office income and sponsorship. Now each orchestra is perilously close to the brink — the point at which its directors are legally bound to say: "We have ceased to be a going business concern; we are bust."

Consider this sorry list. In Bournemouth, the orchestra had a £56,000 deficit last year, is expecting to be £155,000 in the red on this year's figures, and is budgeting for a £250,000 deficit next season. Its boss, Anthony Woodcock, says: "I have no assets, no building, only a clapped-out orchestral van. The bank is bound to take a grim view. And I simply don't know what the Arts Council is doing any more: dealing with them is like dealing with a blancmange."

The scene is bleaker still in Liverpool, where the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's new chief executive, Anthony Lewis-Crosby, is facing an accumulated deficit of £555,000, rising by another £100,000 this season. On top of that, he must find an additional £450,000 next season. That is the bill for relocating the orchestra's concerts in Liverpool Anglican Cathedral while Philharmonic Hall is refurbished.

The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra's problems — well-aired last month when Simon Rattle went public — have partly been alleviated by an extra grant of £250,000, spread over two seasons, from the city council. Nevertheless, the orchestra is projecting a deficit of at least that much next season.

In Manchester, meanwhile, the Hallé is expecting to add a deficit of £113,000 this season to last year's £75,000, and is budgeting for a £225,000 deficit next season. "Technically the company is insolvent," says David Richardson, the chief executive. "We have run out of ways of patching things up."

The Hallé's predicament is particularly sad, because the orchestra has made great strides in recent years to break out of its complacent traditionalism. It brought in the dynamic conductor Kent Nagano, and is due to move into its new concert hall in 1996. "Since 1990 we have been working towards making the orchestra ready for that hall," Richardson says. "Now the whole objective is at risk."

> I don't know what the Arts Council is doing: dealing with them is like dealing with a blancmange

In London, the straits are no less dire. At the Royal Philharmonic and London Philharmonic the players (who ultimately own their orchestras) are preparing to cut their own wages to survive. The LPO recently had to borrow £250,000 from the Musicians' Union. Yet one of the curious anomalies tolerated by our clueless Arts Council is that the South Bank Centre — in which three of the London orchestras play — still receives a handsome £13 million in subsidy. To say that this causes resentment would be an understatement. "We are rapidly reaching the point where you will have a fabulously subsidised Festival Hall, but no orchestras to put on concerts there," says David Whelton, the Philharmonia's managing director.

Of course, there is the "every cloud has a silver lining" response to Britain's impending musical disaster. Let the orchestras die! They are dinosaurs, and we've got too many anyway! Music-lovers can always listen to records played on Classic FM!

Those who suspect that this sort of hidden agenda is at work will not be surprised to learn that yet another report into the "state of British orchestras" is on the way. This one is the long-delayed deliberation of a joint Arts Council/BBC working party, expected out in May. It will undoubtedly raise the possibility of "rationalising" the geographical spread of the orchestras, so that five of them (including the BBC Symphony) don't play out of London and two out of Manchester.

In lusher times, such a reorganisation might have seemed desirable. Right now, the words "deck chairs" and "*Titanic*" spring to mind. Even if the musicians could be persuaded to relocate to ideally appointed cities across the kingdom, the basic problem would remain untouched: we simply cannot afford them at current levels of funding.

This raises a larger issue. For nearly 50 years, public arts funding in Britain grew and grew, give or take the odd lean spell. Rightly, perhaps, those increased funds were used to boost all sorts of different art-forms, many of an extremely minority appeal. Now that public funding is retracting, however, it is not proving easy for the Arts Council to disengage itself from those peripheral activities and to re-focus its resources on the "core" cultural institutions that bring enjoyment to the largest numbers: the great orchestras, repertory theatres, national opera and dance companies, major galleries.

This is something that Lord Gowrie must urgently address when he officially becomes the Arts Council chairman this week. Only when this philosophical flaw is sorted out will he legitimately be able to hammer the Government for the reinstatement of the arts' £3.2 million, and rescue the orchestras. I hope he succeeds. Germany has more than a hundred professional symphony orchestras. We have fewer than 20. If we lose any more, the old jibe about Britain being *das Land ohne Musik* will fly again.

RADIO: Success as Five goes live

All the news that fades

By early afternoon on Monday, Radio 5 Live was clucking confidently, despite having been hatched only that morning. But then came its first sign of nerves, as if mother hen had spotted a yapping dog.

This particular dog turned out to be a short trailer for a forthcoming radio conference in Canada. At this conflab we shall be introduced to another technological breakthrough, "radio's equivalent of the compact disc". It will make listening easier! It will get rid of annoying interference!

The trailer came in the nick of time, for I was listening to 5 Live (as we must get used to calling it) in the car on 693 medium wave. A few minutes pre-trailer the programming had been interrupted by what sounded like one end of a telephone conversation: "Told him to get two, that's the second time he's messed it up."

By running that trailer, 5 Live (you don't think you'll get used to it, and nor do I) was attending to one of its drawbacks, which is its presence on the medium waveband. Not only is the sound quality inferior to FM, but power cables and overpasses can play havoc with essential listening, such as Arsenal 2, Liverpool squelch.

But Liverpool scoring squelch away from home and highlights from local telephone calls need not worry 5 Live (you are right, we shall never get used to calling it that). The network shows every sign of having got it about right, although for whom is a question only the ratings can answer. Clearly 5 Live (not getting any easier, is it?), which essentially mixes news, sport and feature-ish items dressed up as news, is out for a middlebrow-and-under audience, a *Daily Express* to Radio 4's *Times*.

The station does its main job well enough: proper news properly presented, at more length than is available elsewhere. But of course length is not everything. On Monday lunchtime, for example, both 5 Live and Radio 4's *The World At One* rightly led with the Middlesbrough school stabbings. By 1.10pm *The World At One* had covered that and all its other main news items, whereas 5 Live was still on the school story.

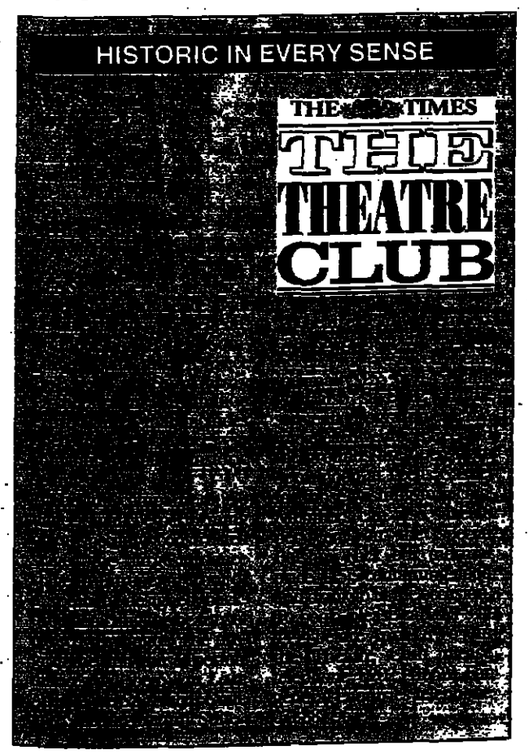
I have no special quarrel with that: on a news network news expands. But we learnt no more about the essentials of the stabbings from 5 Live than we did from *The World At One*, it was simply that the former had more people on the telephone giving their version of the same event. As all editors know, this can work against a proper understanding of what has happened. And there comes a point where even a major story has run out of angles, especially so early in the story's life, and the network has to move on.

Move on, in this case, to the afternoon, and a show fronted by Sybil Ruscoe. This was a mix of interesting background interviews and pure dross, such as the chat with Ian Botham in which he criticised the appointment of Ray Illingworth as chairman of the England cricket selectors.

Left at that, the item would have been slightly interesting. But having got Botham on the line, we had to know what he was up to, down to the precise route of his next charity march, which apparently involves turning right at Chester. This was more than enough Beefy for me, but not quite enough for Ruscoe, who had to ask the ultimate question from hell: "Are you looking forward to it?"

I switched off, but I shall return. I shall not return to calling the network 5 Live, however. "Let's tune in to 5 Live" is not a suggestion that I think will catch on with the British, who are uncomfortable when talking in exclamation marks. Radio 5 is dead, long live Radio 5.

PETER BARNARD



TELEVISION REVIEW

Let us praise

Now that the popular idea of nuns falls somewhere between Dorothy Tutin in *Body and Soul*, Whoopi Goldberg in *Sister Act* and some rollerblading homosexuals in San Francisco, the bright-eyed praise-him of Patricia Routledge's Hildegard in last night's dramatised *Omnibus* (BBC1) was almost unrecognisable. Rarely has a wimple been put to better effect.

Filmed in the dank, chilly crypt of Canterbury Cathedral (where the writer-producer James Runcie has connections), this was the story of a 12th-century German composer whose warm joyful plainsong contrasted bitterly with her actual surroundings.

You don't often see breath hanging in the air, not on television. In *Hildegard*, her tussles with St Disibod's drear, cold-blooded abbot (played by Peter Vaughan) were given additional force by the fact that as their words came out ("You refuse?" "We refuse!") they were almost printed in the air, like sky-writing.

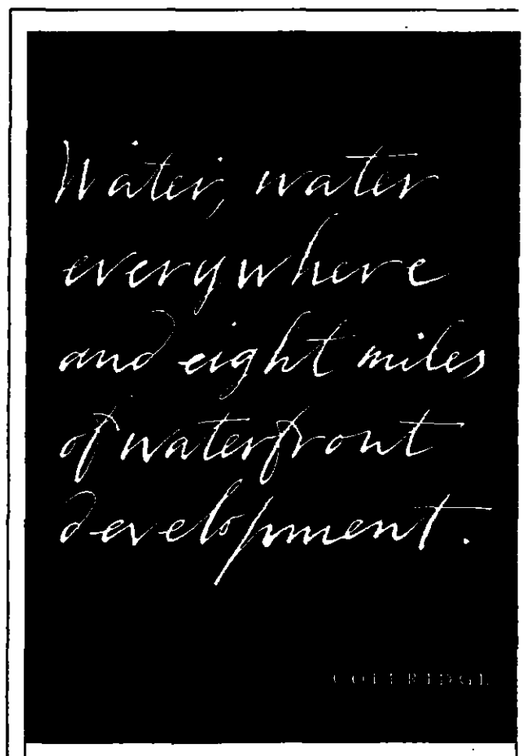
The abbot was no fan of Hildegard, it seems. She defied him, she kept getting brightly coloured visions (rare golds and blues), and she formed a strong attachment to a young nun called Ricardis. As a result of their disagreements, Hildegard was tried before an archbishop, and acquitted.

Her inquisition made a great scene, all flaming torches and blokes in cowls. "Tell me what you have seen," the archbishop demanded. Instead of biting her lip and mumbling, "Lumme, hard to know where to start", she burst into a soaring description. "I have seen the City," Hildegard said, her eyes filled with praise. As she continued with her vision ("company of the blessed ... day will be perpetual ... I *long* to taste it"), the archbishop leaned forward, interested. "Tell me about it," his body language seemed to say. "I'm hoping to go there myself."

Unfortunately, nobody on **Network First: A Modern Miracle?** (ITV) had quite such eloquence. The film concerned modern stigmatics, ordinary (but usually Catholic) people who wake up one morning to find they bear the marks of the Cross.

Despite its sensational title, this was a sensible investigation — sympathetic to the sufferers, respectful to the memory of Padre Pio (a famous Italian 20th-century stigmatic with alleged healing powers) yet at the same time healthily sceptical about the underlying cause of the phenomenon. The nearest rational explanation was that it's a kind of auto-suggestion, similar to the hypnotist's trick of telling someone that the coin they are holding is burning hot.

LYNNE TRUSS



If Coleridge were alive today he'd be the first to see the potential of eight miles of waterfront development. This exciting project is situated at the heart of the vibrant Welsh capital and is protected from the elements by a spectacular barrage, separating the sea from a freshwater lake. It's enough to make today's visionaries in the world of business quite lyrical themselves. For further information call 0222 58 58 58.

CARDIFF BAY. EUROPE'S MOST EXCITING WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

RUSH HOUR CONCERTS: Wigmore Hall's director William Lyne launches a clever idea with the first in a series of eight early evening programmes, each lasting no more than an hour. Tonight, François Le Roux, baritone, Emma Johnson, clarinet, and Roger Vignoles, piano, perform *Avant Le Cinéma*, a series of songs by Poulenc, Debussy, Auric, Vian and others.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (071-935 2141). Tonight, 6pm.

REGINE: A nostalgic journey with the celebrated, self-styled "Queen of the Night". The French chanteuse appears this week for the UK launch of her new show, *La Boule Au Plafond*.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-278 8916). Tonight, tomorrow and Sat, 8.15pm.

900 ONEONTA: A world premiere for David Beaird's Deep South drama of a dying patriarch who dismays his descendants with the fanciful stipulations of his will. The cast includes Linda Marlowe.
Lyric Studio, King St, Hammersmith, W6 (081-741 8701). Previews begin tonight, 8pm; no perf April 1. Opens April 4, 7pm; until April 23.

CARLES TREPAT: Another treat at the Wigmore this evening: a recital from one of the greatest modern Catalan guitarists. Trepat appears as part of the Spanish Arts Festival and his recital includes works by Bach, José, Walton, Debussy and Albéniz.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (071-935 2141). Tonight, 8pm.

ELSEWHERE

SCARBOROUGH: Tonight sees the return of Ayckbourn's clever **Communicating Doors**, playing tricks with time in the same hotel room over three decades: comedy and menace.
Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round (0723 370541). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. From April 13 in repertoire with Ayckbourn's newest, *Haunting Julia*.

SHEFFIELD: Peter Knapp's lively and inventive **Travelling Opera** continues its spring tour with productions of Verdi's *La Traviata* and Mozart's *The Magic Flute*.
Crucible, Norfolk Street (0742 769922). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

LEICESTER: Pam Ferris stars in **The Queen and I**, Sue Townsend's clever and affectionate account of ex-Royals facing life on a Leicester council estate. Opening production of Max Stafford-Clark's new company, Out Of Joint. A national tour follows.
Haymarket, Belgrave Gate (0533 539797). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats April 2, 6, 9, 13, 16: 3pm. Until April 16.

EDINBURGH: The acclaimed **Perth City Ballet** kicks off its UK tour this week with British premieres for its pastiche *On the Beach* and an aboriginal work *Gungka*, a European premiere for *Serenade for Love*, plus its intriguing *Picnic at Hanging Rock*.
Playhouse Theatre, 18 Greenside Place, Edinburgh (031-557 2590).

Also in Edinburgh this evening, a rare chance to heard Ronald Stevenson's epic **Passacaglia on DSCH**, at 80 minutes the longest unbroken span of piano music ever written. With Peter Seivewright.
Queen's Hall, Clerk Street (031-668 2019). Tonight, 7.45pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: All Human Life: Hulton Deutsch Collection (071-638 4141) **British Museum:** Study of Italian Old Master Drawings; Deities and Devotions: Hindu Art (071-636 1555) ... **Festival Hall:** The Thirties, Anxiety and Escapism (071-928 3002) ... **Hayward:** Salvador Dalí/Unbound ... **Kenwood House:** Caro's Trojan Wars (081-348 1286) ... **National Portrait Gallery:** Holbein and the Court of Henry VIII (071-306 0055) **National Gallery:** Claude, the Poetic Landscape (071-839 3321) ... **Royal Academy of Arts:** Goya; The Unknown Modigliani (071-439 7438) ... **Tate:** Picasso (071-887 8008) ... **V & A:** Fabergé: The Golden Age 1730-1760: brass inlaid furniture (071-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

◩ **ANGELS IN AMERICA:** Religion, sex, Aids, corrupt politics: a vision of America at the edge of disaster. Tony Kushner's award-winning *Millennium Approaches* and its sequel *Perestroika*.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-April 5, 7pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 1pm.

◩ **ANORAK OF FIRE:** Return of Stephen Dinsdale's hilarious but also touching account of a trainspotter's obsession. James Holmes plays the dedicated hero. Deservedly a cult.
Arts, Great Newport St, WC2 (071-836 2132). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 6pm.

■ **BEAUTIFUL THING:** Opening night for John Harvey's humourous urban fairytale, a rites of passage play about teenagers growing up on a noisy South London housing estate in midsummer. Transfer from the Bush Theatre after a national tour.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (071-867 1150). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 4pm. Until April 23.

◩ **THE CASE OF REBELLIOUS SUSAN.** Excellent revival of Henry Arthur Jones's daring comedy of 1894 in which a wife is prepared to commit adultery because her husband does.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats March 31, April 7, 2.30pm and Sat, 4pm. Until April 23.

◩ **THE CHEATING HEARTS:** Sylvia and Harlequin are seduced from happy innocence by the wiles of a ruthless Court. Laurence Boswell directs Marivaux's *La Double Inconstance*.
Gate, Pembridge Road, W11 (071-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until April 16.

☐ **THE FLAG:** Final week of performances for the first production from Moving Theatre. Play based on a Robert Shaw novel set in a Suffolk parish in 1926; the strong cast includes Jennifer Hilary, Kika Markham, Corin Redgrave.
Bridge Lane, Bridge Lane, Battersea, SW11 (071-228 8828). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

☐ **THE GHOST OF JOHN BELUSHI FLUSHED MY TOILET:** Nick Revell returns for one week only with his droll and popular monologue.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Tonight-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm.

■ **HOT SHOE SHUFFLE:** Hit Australian musical about seven tap dancing brothers and their tangle footed sister. Exuberantly done and very slick, with lots of Big Band music.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5040). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

■ **A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY:** Helen Mirren and John Hurt head a great cast for Turgenev's classic of love, jealousy and self-deception.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

◩ **ONE HELL OF A DO.** Welcome return of Jon Kenny and Pat Shortt, marvellous over-the-top Irish gabbers, hauling members of the audience on to the stage to help create the mayhem of a mad wedding day.
Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (071-328 1000). Tue-Sat, 8pm; Sun 5pm.

☐ **THE PELICAN:** Jan Waters plays the truly horrific mother who preys on her children in Strindberg's chamber play. The character has been thought to be a candid self-portrait.
The Room, Orange Tree Pub, Kew Road, Richmond (081-940 3633). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm. Final week.

☐ **SEPTEMBER TIDE:** Daphne du Maurier's drama of inappropriate passion stars Susannah York and Michael Praed.
Comedy, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed 3pm and Sat 4pm.

☐ **TRAVESTIES:** After its sell-out season at the Barbican, Stoppard's dazzler transfers. Antony Sher as the Consul playing fast and loose with memory.
Savoy, Strand, WC2 (071-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

LONG RUNNERS

■ **An Absolute Turkey:** Globe (071-494 5065) ... ☐ **April in Paris:** Ambassadors (071-836 6111) ... ◩ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... ☐ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ☐ **Carousel:** Shaftesbury (071-379 5399) ... ■ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) ☐ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ... ■ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) ... ◩ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Grease:** Dominion (071-416 6060) ... ☐ **An Inspector Calls:** Aldwych (071-836 6404) ... ☐ **Me and Mamie O'Rourke:** Strand (071-930 8800) ... ■ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) ... ■ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ... ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ☐ **Oleanna:** Duke of York's (071-836 5122) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ◩ **Piaf:** Piccadilly (071-867 1118) ... ■ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ☐ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **THE ARISTOCATS (U):** Avaricious butler threatens feline Parisians. Pleasant but less than classic Disney cartoon from 1970. Director, Wolfgang Reitherman.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **BEETHOVEN'S 2ND (U).** Overly bland family fun with six St. Bernard dogs. Rod Daniel directs Charles Grodin, Bonnie Hunt, and an army of four-legged friends.
MGMs: Baker Street (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

DAENS (15): Worthy Belgian epic about an embattled priest championing the poor in the 1890s. Strong performance by Jan Decleir. Director, Stijn Coninx.
MGM Haymarket (071-839 1527)

◆ **SISTER ACT 2: BACK IN THE HABIT (PG):** Whoopi Goldberg returns to the wimple. Unwise, dawdling, preachy sequel to a one-off hit.
MGM Oxford Street (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

CURRENT

AUTUMN MOON: Clara Law's beautiful, touching film about youthful alienation in Hong Kong, dazzlingly shot in greys and blues.
ICA Cinema (071-930 3647)

◆ **THE AGE OF INNOCENCE (U).** Scorsese's spellbinding, heartfelt version of Edith Wharton's novel about stifled love in old New York. Daniel Day-Lewis, Michelle Pfeiffer, Winona Ryder.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **THE HOUSE OF THE SPIRITS (15):** Highbrow soap opera from Isabelle Allende's epic novel about a Latin-American family's power and passions. With Jeremy Irons, Glenn Close, Meryl Streep. Director, Bille August.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) **Empire** (0800-888 911) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

THE JOY LUCK CLUB (15): Handsome but shallow version of Amy Tan's novel about Chinese-American families and culture. Wayne Wang directs an accomplished ensemble.
Curzon West End (071-439 4805) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772)

◆ **MRS DOUBTFIRE (12):** Indulgent, crude and funny vehicle for Robin Williams; Sally Field and Pierce Brosnan co-star; Chris Columbus directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** (0426 915683)

◆ **MY LIFE (12):** Michael Keaton, dying of cancer, makes a video scrapbook for his future offspring. Dubious schmaltz from the writer of "Ghost", Bruce Joel Rubin. With Nicole Kidman.
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **THE PELICAN BRIEF (12):** Law student Julia Roberts is trailed by hired killers and the FBI. Sleek, fatuous version of John Grisham's novel, co-starring Denzel Washington.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **SCHINDLER'S LIST (15):** German businessman (Liam Neeson) saves his Jewish workers from the camps. An impressive, grown-up epic from Steven Spielberg.
Empire (0800-888 911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Plaza** (071-437 1234) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **SHADOWLANDS (U):** Skilful rendition of William Nicholson's play about C.S. Lewis's emotional awakening. With Anthony Hopkins and Debra Winger; Richard Attenborough directs.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-638 8891) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **SHORT CUTS (18):** Robert Altman's dazzling kaleidoscope of fractured lives in Los Angeles. The superb cast includes Andie MacDowell, Bruce Davison, Tim Robbins, Matthew Modine and Lily Tomlin.
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

LES VISITEURS (15): Crude, raucous time-travelling comedy, a huge hit in France. With Christian Clavier, Jean Reno. Director, Jean-Marie Poiré.
Plaza (0800 888997)

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** enjoys a thoroughly rambunctious Chaucer staging

Filthy fun for the fourth form

Canterbury Tales
Richmond



Players in an amusing cast: Brian Glover as Mr Miller (left) and David Bailie in *Canterbury Tales*

AM I right to think that the word "Chaucerian" — which means pertaining to, or characteristic of, the poet Geoffrey Chaucer — has increasingly become a synonym for Rabelaisian or, in certain quarters, Frankie Howerdesque? The poor man might have written *Troilus and Cresseyde* and adapted *The Romaunt of the Rose*; but he is more widely remembered for the scene in the Miller's Tale in which a lovelorn oldster kisses a girl's bottom in the belief it is her face and is then confronted with the same part of her boyfriend's anatomy, sticking out of the same dark window:

This Nicholas anon let fle a fart
As greet as it had been a
thonder-dent

I still recall snickering at the lines in the fourth form.

Well, most of us keep a bit of fourth form behind our grown-up gravitas, and it is at this unreconstructed part of ourselves that Michael Bogdanov and Robin Davies's adaptation of *The Canterbury Tales* is aimed. True, a character called Knight is on the cast-list and introduced to us at the start of the show. But is he allowed to narrate his long romantic tale of Arcite and Palamon? No, not a word of it. This is Sancho Panzo's and not Don Quixote's evening.

Bogdanov himself brought an earlier version of this piece to the West End seven years ago, and it was poorly received by the more sophisticated critics. Now the production has been remounted by Peter James, and taken on a tour that will include Canterbury, Lincoln, Buxton, Birmingham, Redhill and Bradford, but is not scheduled to touch down in central London. That is probably wise, for it is still unlikely to please the cognoscenti. But it is also a pity. A little honest vulgarity, as opposed to the kind on offer in and around Soho, would cheer up the town no end.

That the effect is good-humoured rather than nudging or winking is largely due to that beefy, bald troll with the homespun Yorkshire voice, Brian Glover. He plays a Mr Miller who, unlike Major Pardoner, Miss Franklin and others, has not been permitted to enter the local vicar's annual tale-telling competition.

However, this does not stop him rampaging through the stalls, and then coming onto the stage to tell a few scurrilous jokes. Nor does it prevent him appearing as a podgy Chanticleer in the Nun's Priest's Tale or as a somewhat spurious elephant in the Franklin's Tale.

In the end it does not deter him from delivering the Miller's Tale, bare bums and all. And why should it, when his deadly rival, Adrian Neil's Mr Reeve, has chronicled the bouncing seductions perpetrated by the clerks Alan and John? The nine-person cast (Nicholas Lumley and David Bailie also amusingly prominent) brings most gusto to these two stories, but do well enough by the Wife of Bath and the Pardoner too. A pity they don't assay the Merchant's Tale, Chaucer's sexiest and wittiest; but its ironies would probably get lost in the raunchy ado.

Too many *doubles entendres* involving "spanking good tarts" and the like? Too much colloquial doggerel rather than Chaucer as, even updated, he actually is? Probably. But there is no point in objecting *de haut en bas*, when *bas* is where everybody wants to be. And when Brian Glover's puzzled pate pops over the vast sheet behind which his wife and daughter are being enthusiastically humped, even the late Lord Reith might have found it hard to suppress a chuckle. A merry evening.

Cat-fight in full flight

Pygmalion
Nottingham Playhouse

JOSIE Lawrence does not stint on Miss Doolittle's obligatory cockney caterwauling. When Eliza expresses her outrage in one long loud vowel, Lawrence, singlehandedly, sounds like a feline alley fight. Overall, however, director Pip Broughton avoids caricaturing Shaw's 'gor blimey, guv'nor' business. This approach is soundly unconcescending though it does make this staging less funny than some.

Phillip Manikum mucking up Alfred Doolittle's lines is unamusing. Nonetheless, Lawrence is hilarious exchanging social not-so-niceties at Mrs Higgins's "At Home." Eliza's scrupulously pukka enunciation as she speaks of "them 'as done her aunt in" is at once ridiculously incongruous and yet seems suspiciously akin to the small talk of those with *savoir faire*. The sliding set was also out of joint on press night: a bit of wall went flying before the two halves of Mrs Higgins's parlour could be together. That brought the house down.

Domestic interiors have oddly echoing acoustics but the actors do have the correct accents. Christopher Timothy's neutral Received Pronunciation is a believable compromise for Higgins, a linguistics specialist. His expletives occasionally indicate he must be more nobby, but his RP incisively establishes social divides. In a mac and trilby like a dialect detective spying for the intelligentsia, he is audibly at odds with both the posy sellers of Covent Garden and its la-di-da operagoers.

The production brings home Shaw's social points. It makes you remember that *Pygmalion*, rather than simply inclining towards the shallow romantic comedy of *My Fair Lady*, comes from a Shavian tradition of drama as political debate. Speeches on both the sexes and the classes stand out clearly. Physical stillness allows focus but does stifle the liveliness this play can attain.

Higgins is told off for fidgeting and being nonchalantly all bounce and go. Timothy has the wrong body language. He looks awkward landing on his knees on a sofa. One misses Alan Howard's frenetic phoneticist at the National who swished about and slouched by turns. Howard, unlike Timothy, also brought out the oedipal little boy and the ladies man in Henry Higgins. Broughton's production perversely fails to pick out the attractions going on under interactions. Lawrence and Timothy lack passion and his careless bullying does not hit hard enough.

This is a pared-down production. Subtleties in character are missed. Margery Mason's Mrs Higgins manages to be both warm and shrewd but Steven Beard's Colonel Pickering, though quietly firm, lacks military mannerisms altogether. The set is oddly spartan: Higgins's bookshelves are empty. The plot itself, without any language lessons and with no glimpses of the garden party, seems to advance in little jolts before ending abruptly.

KATE BASSETT

DANCE: Birmingham Royal Ballet

Eros steals the show

Sylvia
Covent Garden

PEOPLE get too worried about the story of *Sylvia*. It is alleged to explain why Delibes's wonderful ballet score has never fully established itself in the repertoire. Nonsense. The plot offers four good characters, love denied, adventure, lively incident and a happy ending.

There are three sensible ways of staging it. Historical reconstruction works well, as the Paris Opera showed in the 1970s. Radically rethought for comedy and psychological insight, Laszlo Seregi's version for the Hungarian Ballet is widely and durably popular. Or — if you are a genius like Frederick Ashton — doing it perfectly straight with just a hint of tongue-in-cheek produces an unforgettable result.

David Bintley's production for Birmingham Royal Ballet, which opened the company's short London season on Monday, tries the updating route: quite successfully in Sue Blane's allusive time-warp designs, less so in the supposed plot adaptations which, to be honest, you hardly notice. I have the feeling that Bintley does not believe in his characters as he did when staging *Hobson's Choice*. A pity; that makes it difficult for us to care much either.

Luckily, the leading roles all get first-rate performances. Michael O'Hare's Eros steals the show with his suave comedy in many quick-change disguises, and above all by the exuberance and virtuosity of his solo as a one-legged pirate, pirouetting more blithely with his wooden stump than most dancers do on their real limbs.

His younger brother Kevin O'Hare makes the lovelorn hero Amynta a figure of purpose as well as devotion, and Joseph Cipolla as his hairy, lecherous hunk of a rival, Orion, causes more than a few gasps whether out hunting in flimsy rags or enjoying his spoils at home in a dinner jacket.

Those spoils include our heroine, who temporarily abandons her chaste white tunic for something black and slinky (this is not a very PC ballet) but gets back into good-girl attire, and eventually even a tutu, for the finale. How are we supposed to find fresh words for praising Miyako Yoshida's perfect technique and line, her response to music, her irresistible spirit? Better give up, and just mention that (as already reported from Birmingham) the second cast led by Sandra Madgwick and Sergiu Pobereznic is also not to be sniffed at.

Too bad that the choreography for the supporting cast is trite and feeble. Also that Paul Murphy sometimes gave the usually excellent Royal Ballet Sinfonia too rum-ti-tum a beat, although the way they opened Act III was tremendous.

JOHN PERCIVAL

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

Michael Parkin Gallery, Roland Collins. London-Dieppe retrospective from £250. 11, Motcomb Street SW1. Tel 071 235 8144.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 836 3161 (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 THE PEARL FISHERS Tomor 7.30 (FIRST NIGHT) EUGENE ONEGIN

OPERA IN VIENNA. For free guide & tickets call Austria On-Line 071-434 7380.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066/1911. Tickets avail on the day. Stand-by info 836 6903. THE BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET Ton't 7.30 Sylvia. Tomor 7.30 Serenade/Fall River Legend/Elite Syncopations.

THEATRES

ADELPHI "Andrew Lloyd Webber's Amazing Technicolor Sunset" Los Angeles Times SUNSET BOULEVARD RE-OPENS ON APRIL 7th WITH THE AWARD-WINNING LOS ANGELES PRODUCTION 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 071 344 0055 (bkg fee) GRP BOOKING 071 413 3302 (bkg fee) NO BKG FEE FOR PERSONAL CALLERS AT THE ADELPHI BOX OFFICE Recorded information 071 379 8884 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00 April 7, 8 & 9 at 8.00

ALBERY THEATRE 071 867 1115/1111 cc 24hr 071 344 4444 HELEN MIRREN JOHN HURT AND JOHN STANDING A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY Directed by Bill Bryden Evgs 7.30 Mats Thurs & Sats 3.00

ALDWYCH 071 836 6404/CC 497 9977 Group Sales 071 930 6123 "AS CONCENTRATED A PIECE OF THEATRICAL PERFECTION AS YOU WILL FIND ANYWHERE" Today The Royal National Theatre's multi award-winning production of J.B. Priestley's AN INSPECTOR CALLS "A CLASSIC PIECE OF THEATRE" Sun Times Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 5pm & 8.15pm, Wed Mat 2.30pm

AMBASSADORS 071 836 6111 cc 071 497 9977 Nominated BEST COMEDY 1994 Olivier Awards "VERY FUNNY" The Independent "SUPERB" F.T. APRIL IN PARIS by JOHN GODBER Tues-Sat 8pm, SUN 4pm, Mats Thurs 3pm & Sat 5pm NOW BOOKING UNTIL JUNE

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 071 416 6043 cc 24hrs 071 344 4444/071 497 9977 Grps 071 416 6075/071 413 3321 "Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of STARLIGHT EXPRESS "A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £10.00

ARTS THEATRE BO 071 836 2132 CC (24hr, no bkg fee) 071 344 4444 ANORAK OF FIRE THE LIFE AND TIMES OF GUS GASCOIGNE TRAINSPOTTER "Superb...Glorious" D Tel. "Hilarious...A Gem" S Times Tues-Thu 8pm, Sat 6 & 8pm

COMEDY BO/CC 071 867 1045/071 344 4444/071 497 9977 Susannah York Michael Praed "Magical" Daily Mail "A revelation" Daily Telegraph Daphne Du Maurier's SEPTEMBER TIDE "Gripping, beautifully acted, thoroughly entertaining, a classic" D.Tel Mon - Sat 8, Mats Wed 3, Sat 5

DOMINION Ticketlines 071 416 6060 071 497 9977 (bkg fee). Grps 071 416 6075/413 3321/240 7941 GREASE Starring CRAIG McLACHLAN and DEBBIE GIBSON FROM 12-19 APRIL DANNY ZUKO WILL BE PLAYED BY SHANE RICHIE "A monster hit" Daily Mirror Eves 7.30pm Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Some standing room avail daily NOW BOOKING TO JAN 1995

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 071 494 5001/344 4444/240 7200/379 8901 Grps 831 8625/494 5454 MISS SAIGON "THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME" NOW IN ITS 5TH FABULOUS YEAR! Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE POSTAL BOOKINGS/PERSONAL CALLERS 071 494 5060 BKG FEE

DUCHESS cc 071 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) 071-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30 NOW IN ITS 4th YEAR "A SAUCY COMEDY" E Std DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER "Gloriously Outrageous" T.Out

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE 071 836 5122 cc 836 9837 24hrs/7 days 836 3464, 344 4444 Denis Lawson Michelle Fairley OLEANNA by David Mamet Directed by Harold Pinter If you haven't seen it, you can't argue about it Eves 7.30, Thur Mat 3, Sat Mat 4 Olivier Award nomination Best Play

FORTUNE BO & CC 071 836 2238 CC 497 9977 (24hrs No fee) 344 4444 (No fee)/ Grps 930 6123 "A REAL THRILL OF HORROR" Sun Times JOHN NETTLETON BRIAN DEACON Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt Eves 8pm Mats Tue 3pm Sat 4pm

GLOBE BO/CC 494 5067/497 9977 THE PETER HALL COMPANY FELICITY KENDAL GRIFF RHYS JONES AN ABSOLUTE TURKEY "Sir Peter Hall's brilliantly paced production of Feydeau's masterpiece-Absolutely fabulous-A triumph from start to finish" D Exp "Delicious" Ind Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

HAYMARKET 071 930 8800 cc 071 344 4444/497 9977 (bkg fee) "One of the funniest, most entertaining men in the world" S. Express AN EVENING WITH PETER USTINOV 24 PERFORMANCES ONLY From April 19.

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/497 9977 (bkg fee) Group Sales 071 930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 NOW BOOKING TO 17 DEC 1994 APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS Special signed perf 9 April 3pm

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 071 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) Grps 071 494 5459 JONATHAN PRYCE in LIONEL BART'S OLIVER! OPENS 15 NOVEMBER

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 071-494 5057 (no bkg fee) / 344 4444 (bkg fee). Both 24 hrs / 7 days. PAUL MERTON - THE PALLADIUM 21 MARCH -2 APRIL ONLY! LAST 3 PERFS

LYRIC, Shafts Ave Bo & cc 071 494 5045 cc 071 344 4444 All tel lines 24hr/7 days (bkg fee). cc 497 9977 Grps 071 930 6123 The Joint Never Stops Jumpin FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE THE OLIVIER AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL 4TH GREAT YEAR Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat at 6 & 8.45

CALL 071-481 1920 To place your entertainment advert in THE TIMES

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 081 741 2311 or 071 836 3464 (24hrs/no bkg fee) Until 9 Apr, FASCINATING AIDA Mon-Sat 7.45 (No perf 1 Apr. Mat 9 Apr 5pm) LYRIC STUDIO 081 741 8701. From 30 Mar, 900 ONEONTA Eve 8pm (No perf 1 Apr. 4 Apr 7pm). Sat mats 4.30pm.

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252 Grps 071 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 OLIVIER Ton't 7.15 (PREVIEW), Tomor 7.00 (PRESS NIGHT) JOHNNY ON A SPOT Charles MacArthur. LYTTELTON PLATFORM PERFORMANCE Today 6pm DIALOGUE: JAY PARINI & ELAINE STEINBECK ON STEINBECK. Ton't 7.30 THE BIRTHDAY PARTY Harold Pinter. Tomor 7.30 SWEENEY TODD Music by Stephen Sondheim, book by Hugh Wheeler from an adaptation by Christopher Bond. COTTESLOE Ton't 7.00, Tomor 1.00 & 7.00 PERESTROIKA Tony Kushner

NEW LONDON Drury Lane BO 071 405 0072 CC 071 404 4079 24hr 344 4444. Grps 930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PALACE THEATRE 071-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 071-344 4444/497 9977/071 793 1000 Group Sales 071 930 6123 Groups 071 494 1671 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL LES MISERABLES Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 867 1044/867 1111/344 4444 (fee) 497 9977 BEST MUSICAL ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS STEPHANIE LAWRENCE with CARL WAYNE "ASTONISHING" S Express "...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PICCADILLY BO/CC 867 1118/1111/071 344 4444/071 497 9977 THE PETER HALL COMPANY "ELAINE PAIGE is PIAF Astonishing...tremendous, funny, tender, stupendous...powerful, majestic, unstoppable" D.Exp "MAGNIFICENT" Gdn A musical play by PAM GEMS Directed by PETER HALL Eves 8.00 Mats Wed, Sat 3.00 Matinees Lorraine Brunning will play the role of Piaf.

To place your ENTERTAINMENT advert in THE TIMES TRADE 071-481 1920 FAX 071-481 9313 TELEX 925088 PRIVATE 071-481 4000

PLAYHOUSE BO/CC 071 839 4401 JANE EYRE Adapted by Fay Weldon "Epic...an enthralling, haunting piece of theatre" D Exp. RECORD BREAKING SEASON EXTENDED ALL SEATS £10! Except Sat Evening Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat at 3.00

PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) 836 3464 / 071 344 4444 Groups 930 6123. BEST MUSICAL Laurence Olivier Awards 93 ALL SINGING ALL DANCING ALL GERSHWIN CRAZY FOR YOU "PUTS THE BRIGHT LIGHTS BACK IN THE WEST END IN DAZZLING STYLE" M on Sun Eves 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat 3.00 GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK

QUEEN'S 071 494 5040 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee) 497 9977 (bkg fee) HOT SHOE SHUFFLE The New Tap Musical "A SONG & DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA" Eve Std Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Wed Sat 3.00

ROYAL COURT 071-730 1745/2554 cc 836 2428 (24hrs) 836 5122 Final Week THE KITCHEN by Arnold Wesker Eves 7.30, Sat mats 3.30. Extra perf Good Fri. Platform: Arnold Wesker reading his short play "Whatever Happened to Betty Lemon" 6.15.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (071 638 8891 cc Mon - Sun 9am-8pm) BARBICAN THEATRE THE MERCHANT OF VENICE Previews from 4 April THE PIT: GHOSTS Tomor, Fri 7.15, Sat 2.00 & 7.15 TRAVESTIES now at the Savoy Theatre- for tickets call 071 836 8891 STRATFORD-UPON-AVON (0789 295623 cc Mon-Sat 9am-8pm) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE MACBETH Today, Sat 2.30 & 7.30, Tomor, Fri 7.30 SWAN THEATRE: WILDEST DREAMS Today, Sat 2.30 & 7.30, Tomor, Fri 7.30 Meal/Ticket/Hotel package 0789 414999.

SADLER'S WELLS 071 278 8916 Regine Hostess, Actress, Chanteuse Cabaret songs from 40's to the present 29-31 March, 2 April 8.15pm.

SAVOY 071 836 8888 or 24hrs/no bkg fee 071 497 9977 "YOU'LL LEAVE FEELING DIZZY WITH LAUGHTER" D.Tel. Antony Sher in the Royal Shakespeare Company production of TRAVESTIES Tom Stoppard's award-winning comedy "BRILLIANTLY FUNNY" S.Times Eves 7.30, Sat mat 2.30

SHAFTESBURY BO & CC 071 379 5399 CC 071 344 4444 24hr/bkg fee Grps 413 3321 "RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S MASTERPIECE" S. Times CAROUSEL "A ONCE IN A DECADE EVENT" D. Tel Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 PLEASE NOTE latecomers will not be admitted for 40 minutes

ST MARTIN'S 071-836 1443. Special CC No. 344 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0 42nd Year of Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND BO/CC 071 930 8800 24hr cc 071 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grps 071 413 3321 DAWN FRENCH JENNIFER SAUNDERS ME & MAMIE O'ROURKE by Mary Agnes Donoghue "Sublime Comic Genius" D.Mail Dir by Robert Allan Ackerman LTD SEASON LAST 2 WEEKS Mon-Thur 8, Fri 8.45, Sat 5.45 & 8.45

STRAND BO/CC 071 930 8800 24hr cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grps 930 6123/413 3321 RICHARD WILSON ANGELA THORNE in MICHAEL PALIN'S COMEDY THE WEEKEND Directed by Robin Lefevre Prev's 26 April. Opens 3 May

VAUDEVILLE BO/CC 836 9987 CC 497 9977 (No Fee) OPENS APRIL 6 Evenings 7.45 Mat Wed & Sat at 3.00 Zoë Wanamaker Niall Buggy Beatie Edney David Haig Danny Webb in DEAD FUNNY A New Comedy by Terry Johnson

VICTORIA PALACE Box Off & cc (No bkg fee) 071 834 1317 CC (bkg fee) 071-344 4444/497 9977 Groups 071 930 6123 * BUDDY * The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun * BUDDY * "WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel * BUDDY * Mon-Thur 8.00 Fri 5.30 & 8.30 Sat 5.00 & 8.30. ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAY 5.30 PERF 5TH FANTASTIC YEAR OVER 1800 PERFORMANCES BOOKING TO APRIL '95

WYNDHAMS 071 867 1116 cc 071 867 1111/344 4444 (no bkg fee) 497 9977 (bkg fee) Some people think they can get away with Murder! ROPE by Patrick Hamilton. Previews from April 6. Opens April 11

Young Vic 071 928 6363 / 344 4444 (cc only/no bkg fee) OMMA - OEDIPUS AND THE LUCK OF THEBES 'Striking' Gdn 'Chills you to the bone' Stdn

To place your ENTERTAINMENT advert in THE TIMES TRADE 071-481 1920 FAX 071-481 9313 TELEX 925088 PRIVATE 071-481 4000
ADELPHI 071-344 0055 24hr CC (bkg Fee)


TO PLACE YOUR ENTERTAINMENTS ADVERTISEMENT IN THE TIMES
TRADE ADVERTISERS TEL: 071-481 1920
ADVERTISING FAX NO. 071-481 9313
TELEX 925088
PRIVATE ADVERTISERS TEL: 071-481 4000
YOU MAY USE YOUR ACCESS, AMEX, DINERS OR VISA CARD

WEDNESDAY MARCH
Chaucer stage

هكذا من الأصل

From Exeter to the Orkneys, **Kate Bassett** offers a guide to the finest cultural jamborees in Britain this year

Best of the summer's festivals



Emma Cater and James Hewison in V-TOL Dance Company's 32 feet per second per second. V-TOL will be appearing on the festival programmes at Brighton and Kendal

APRIL

GLASGOW MAYFEST: A large and important festival that crosses all art forms and is great fun. The theatre and dance season *One World First* emphasises African and Cuban work. *Defying Britain* assembles bold projects about moral, political and sexual defiance from the UK and Ireland (Bobby Baker, *Man Act* etc). There are programmes of classical music and comedy and popular music with a focus on US country music and world music.
April 29-May 21: Mayfest Ltd, 18 Albion Street, Glasgow G1 1LH (041-552 8000)

KENDAL: The little-known Northern International Festival of Mime, Dance and Visual Theatre is an impressive festival of innovative physical performance beyond the bustle of big-city life. This spring has Théâtre Sans Frontières, Trestle, V-TOL, Peta Lily, Talking Pictures, Max Vandervorst and Yllana *en masse* in Cumbria. Incidentally, the next *Time Being*, another celebration of new performance in rural retreat (Uley in Gloucestershire), will be held in May 1995.
April 22-May 2: Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4HE (0539 725133)

LONDON HANDEL: Handel and his contemporaries are heard in St George's Church, Hanover Square and the Royal College of Music.
April 1-12: The Administrator, London Handel Society, 208 Turnpike Link, Croydon CR0 5NZ (081-680 3815)



Bobby Baker: zany fun at the Glasgow Mayfest

MAY

BATH: The theme this year is Ancient Echoes. The programme of classical concerts considers plunderings and parallels, with Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* and Handel's *Belshazzar*, Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* and Pergolesi. Michael Nyman and Henryk Gorecki are featured as contemporary composers who relish past masters. Jazz and Blues are strongly represented.
May 27-June 12: Bath Festival, 1 Pierrepont Place, Bath BA1 1JY (0225 463362)

BEVERLEY EARLY MUSIC: Minstrelsy in a little medieval town where the Gothic Minster has devils, angels and mini-musicians perching on its walls carved in stone. The New London Consort plays Spanish dances. The Hanover Band plays Bach, and the Hilliard Ensemble makes sacred sounds from the 14th century.
May 12-15: For details contact Tourist Information, Guildhall, Register Square, Beverley HU17 9AU (0482 867430)

BRIGHTON: The largest arts festival in England is celebrating the theme "Kindred Spirits". An outstanding programme ranges from the Odeon Theatre of Bucharest, Wierzalin Theatr Company from Poland and the Orchestre National de Lille to such British touring companies as Travelling Opera, Cheek-by-Jowl, V-TOL and the Cholmondeleys.
May 6-29: Brighton Festival Marketing Dept, 21-22 Old Steine, Brighton BN1 1EL (0273 676926)

CARDIFF BAY JAZZ: An international jazz festival, though it's not as big as Brecon. Abdullah Ibrahim, Django Bates' Delightful Precipice and The Dirty Dozen Brass Band are among those appearing.
May 28-30 (0222 496893)

GLYNDEBOURNE: Classy evenings with picnics and first-class opera either side. This season comprises *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *Eugene Onegin*, *Rake's Progress* and *Peter Grimes*.
May 28-Aug 25: Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex BN8 5UU (0273 812321)

HAY FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE AND ARTS: An internationally crucial celebration of the written and spoken word in a tiny market town. Lectures, interviews and conversations with Ian McEwan, Doris Lessing, Maya Angelou, Vikram Seth and many others.
May 20-June 5: Hay Festival, Hay-on-Wye HR3 5BX (0497 821817. Box office 0497 821229)

MALVERN: Elgar, a Malvern man, is joined by Schumann and Robin Holloway. There are premieres by Alan Mills and Matthew Taylor.
May 21-June 5: Festival Office, Grange Road, Malvern, Worcs WR14 3HB (0684 572725. Box office 0684 892277)

PERTH: The Scottish Chamber Orchestra plays with Evelyn Glennie, and the Polish Chamber Orchestra and Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra are appearing. Also drama and visual arts.
May 18-29: Box Office, Perth Theatre, 185 High Street, Perth PH1 5UW (0738 21031).

SHEFFIELD CHAMBER MUSIC: A French and Russian emphasis this year. Concerts are held at the Crucible Studio Theatre. Performers include Lindsay String Quartet and Nash Ensemble.
May 24-28: SCMF, 65 Rawcliffe Lane, York YO3 6SJ (0904 645738)

JUNE

ALDEBURGH: Britten's festival is now in its 47th year. Elena Prokina will be singing at Snape Maltings Concert Hall. Pianist Pedja Muzijevic plays late Liszt. There will be two staged performances of Britten's *Noye's Fludde*.
June 10-26: Aldeburgh Foundation, High St, Aldeburgh, Suffolk (0728 453543)

BALLYCASTLE, COUNTY ANTRIM: *Fleadh Amhran Agus Rince* is the largest festival of traditional song and dance in Northern Ireland.
June 17-19: Mrs. J. McGrath, Comhaltas Coeltoiri Eireann, 25 Gortahar Road, Rasharkin, Ballymena, County Antrim BT44 8SB (0266 571310).

BOURNEMOUTH: Jools Holland, the Grimethorpe Colliery Band and pan-African dance from Kokuma.
June 4-18: BIF, 2 Digby Chambers, Post Office Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH1 1BA (0202 297327)

BRADFORD: One of the biggest puppetry and animation festivals in Europe, with about 30 acts from Ukraine, Poland and Pakistan.
June 17-July 2: Wool Exchange, Bank Street, Bradford, W. Yorkshire BD1 1LE (0274 309199)

EXETER: Performers from Hungary, Poland, Russia and Korea. The Festival has its own proms in the National Trust's Killerton Gardens, with a fireworks festival.
June 30-July 17: Festival Office, Civic Centre, Exeter, EX1 1JN (0392-265118).

GARSINGTON OPERA: Expanded to 20 performances this year. Richard Strauss's *Capriccio* is directed by David Fielding. Jean Rigby is Rosina in *The Barber of Seville*. The Haydn opera for 1994 is *L'Incontro Improviso*. Dinner is served in the Great Barn or you can picnic.
June 17-July 10: Garsington Opera, Garsington, Oxford, OX44 9DH (0865 361636).

GLASTONBURY: Hoards of people in tents and pop stars galore on a farm in Somerset: Peter Gabriel, Elvis Costello and hundreds more.
June 24-26: Worthy Farm, Pilton, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 4BY (Hotline: 0839 668899). Tickets, in advance only. (0272 767868).

GWYL GREGYNOG: This classical music festival takes place in a mock-Tudor mansion. Benjamin Luxon sings, Qing Guo plays the violin.
June 25-July 3: Gwyl Gregynog, University of Wales, Near Newton, Powys, SY16 3PW (0686 650224).

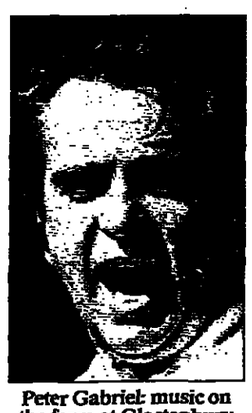
GREENWICH: A local festival with class in scenic surrounds. There's a day of riverfront jazz; soprano Sarah Leonard joins the Smith Quartet; and Yolande Snaith's new dance piece comes with tea and cakes.
June 3-12: 151 Powis Street, London, SE18 6JL (081-317 8687).

LUFTHANSA BAROQUE: Britain's foremost international festival of early music is held at the Wigmore Hall and Christopher Wren's Church of St James's in Piccadilly. Harpsichords, lutes and the human voice.
June 11-30: 200 Broomwood Road, London SW11 6JY (071-627 5407).

SPITALFIELDS: Held in the acoustically splendid Christ Church, the programme includes Purcell's *Hail, Bright Cecilia*, a new work by John Buller and a staging of Britten's *The Prodigal Son*.
June 8-29: Christ Church, Commercial Street, London E1 6LY (071-377 0287).

LUDLOW: *The Taming Of The Shrew* will be performed *en plein air* in the Norman Castle. There are also outdoor concerts, dance, drama, opera and jazz.
June 25-July 10: Festival Box Office, Castle Square, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 1AY (0584 872150).

ST MAGNUS: The Orkney Islands celebrate summer. Seamus Heaney reads poetry.
June 17-22 (0856 872669).



Peter Gabriel: music on the farm at Glastonbury

JULY

BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL JAZZ: Jazz right around town in pubs, wine bars and shopping malls.
July 1-10: BIJF, P.O. Box 944, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 (Hotline: 021-454 7020).

BUXTON OPERA: This charming Peak District spa town will be offering Mozart's *Il Re Pastore*, Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*. The concerts will involve the Medici Quartet and the Hallé Orchestra and percussionist Evelyn Glennie.
July 13-31: 1, Crescent View, Hall Bank, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 6EN (0298 70395).

CAMBRIDGE FOLK: This large folk festival is held in Cherry Hinton Hall grounds.
July 29-31: (0223 463363).

CHELTENHAM: There is a complete Beethoven quartet cycle, a lot of Schubert, and premieres by composers including Dave Heath and Thea Musgrave.
July 2-17: Cheltenham Town Hall, Imperial Square, Cheltenham, Glos, GL50 1Q (0242 521621).

CHESTER SUMMER MUSIC: The BBC Philharmonic, the Carmina String Quartet and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra perform in Chester's historic buildings.
July 22-30: Festival Office, 8, Abbey Square, Chester, CH1 2HU (0244 320722).

CHICHESTER FESTIVITIES: Classical music, jazz, opera, films, theatre, poetry, dance and street entertainment. Stephane Grappelli plays in the cathedral. Moscow Conservatoire musicians perform by candlelight and there are champagne concerts at Goodwood House.
July 3-19: Amanda Sharp, Administrator, Chichester Festivities, Canon Gate House, South Street, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1PU (0243 785718).

DARTINGTON SUMMER SCHOOL: A combined festival and Summer School of Music. Concerts are given in the medieval house and gardens of Dartington Hall.
July 23-Aug 27: Marcus Davey, D.I.S.S., Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon, TQ9 6DE (0803 867068).

FISHGUARD: A mix of choral and orchestral music and recitals, with international and Welsh performers.
July 23-30: Festival Office, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire, Wales, SA65 9BJ (0348 873612).

HARROGATE: One of the North of England's leading arts festivals with international orchestras, opera plus some dance, cabaret and street theatre. There are premieres by James MacMillan and John McCabe.
July 23-Aug 13: Festival Office, Royal Baths, Harrogate, North OYorkshire, HG1 2RR (0423 562303). Box Office, 0423 565757).

HENLEY: Four evenings with a floating stage. Concerts, cabaret, dining and dancing on the riverside site of the Royal Regatta.
July 6-9: Henley Festival, Festival Yard, 42, Bell Street, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon, RG9 2BG (0491 411353).

KING'S LYNN: Ancient East Anglian port seeks to share opera, orchestral and chamber concerts and open-air events with music lovers. The theme is Vive la France.
July 16-30: Festival Office, 27-29, King Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 6LD (0553 773578).

LAKE DISTRICT SUMMER: A chamber music affair. On the shores of Lake Windermere there are evening concerts, lunchtime recitals and masterclasses.
July 30-Aug 13: LDSM, 72, Greenhill, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, DE4 4EH (0629 823733).

LICHFIELD: Michael Berkeley is this beautiful cathedral city's composer-in-residence. Peter Frankl, Georg Pauk and Ralph Kirshbaum play trios and give masterclasses. This year's line-up includes Thomas Allen and the Endellion Quartet alongside plays, movies and pyrotechnics.
July 8-17: Festival Office, 7, The Close, Lichfield, WS13 7LD (0543 257298).

LLANGOLLEN EISTEDDFOD: Choral heaven and a national costume-fancier's field day. Nearly 50 countries descend on Wales, and sing and dance for six days. Amateurs and professionals rub shoulders.
July 5-10: L.I.M.E., Eisteddfod Office, Llangollen, Clwyd, LL20 8NG (0978 860236).

BBC HENRY WOOD PROMENADE CONCERTS: The world-famous Proms are 100 years old this year. A wonderful range of music from Renaissance exquisiteness to contemporary commissions performed by international choirs, orchestras and soloists.
July 15-Sept 10: The Proms Guide is published in May. (UK orders 091-222 0381).

CITY OF LONDON: At St Paul's, The Tower of London or the splendiferous livery halls, see the sights and catch some chamber music or a play.
July 3-20: City Arts Trust, Bishopsgate Hall, 230, Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4QD (071-377 0540).

FESTIVAL OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH AT THE SOUTH BANK: Seven steamy days of cajun music, clog and contemporary dancing, cowboy poetry, gospel and bluegrass, a musical play about African-American and Appalachian mountain cultures, and an installation including a vial of Elvis's sweat.
July 23-31: Box Office, The Royal Festival Hall, South Bank Centre, London SE1 8XX (071-928 8800).

WARWICK AND LEAMINGTON: This features British composers: Adrian Williams and Richard Rodney Bennett. Solo stars include the Chinese pianist Fou Ts'ong. The Birmingham Symphony Orchestra gives the Firework Concerts in Capability Brown's Pageant Fields. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* is staged in the Castle courtyard. *The Warwick Weekend of British Music* (Elgar, Howells, Walton, Bliss, with performers John McCabe, Ian Partridge and others) runs from April 29-May 3.
July 2-17: Warwick Festival/Warwick Weekend of British Music, Northgate, Warwick, CV34 4JL (0926 496277/408187).

YORK EARLY MUSIC: Britain's largest celebration of early music features Gothic Voices, the Tallis Scholars and the Gabrieli Consort and Players. *July 8-17: YEMF, 65, Rawcliffe Lane, York, YO3 6SJ (0904 658338).*



Evelyn Glennie: at the Buxton Festival in July

AUGUST

ARUNDEL: Professional artists open their houses to the public. The Oxford Stage Company presents *Romeo and Juliet* in the Open Air Theatre under the castle battlements. There are concerts in the cathedral, cabaret and cinema in the marquee.
Aug 26-Sept 4: Arundel Festival Society, The Mary Gate, Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 9AT (0903 883690).

EDINBURGH: Probably the world's most famous celebration of the arts. The International Festival has the Australian Opera, the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, directors Peter Zadek and Luc Bondy in this year's line-up. Robert Lepage and Peter Stein are back. The music programme includes a huge dose of Beethoven. Plus the ever-expanding Edinburgh Festival Fringe.
Aug 14-Sept 3: Edinburgh International Festival, 21 Market Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1BW (031-226 4001). Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Festival Administrator, Festival Fringe Society, 180 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1QS (031-226 5257).

EDINBURGH FILM: This major celebration of international film focuses on the best of new British cinema, American independent film-making and low-budget movies.
Aug 13-28: Edinburgh Film Festival, 88, Lothian Road, Edinburgh, EH3 9BZ (031-228 4051).

GLASGOW EARLY MUSIC: Performances of music are headed by the Festival opera production of Henry Purcell's *The Indian Queen*.
August 5-14: GIEMF, Scottish Early Music Consort, 22, Falkland Street, Glasgow, G12 9PR (041-334 9229).

NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL: An enormous street party celebrating black culture with floats and lavish carnival costumes, food and dancing on every corner.
Aug 26-28: London (081-964 0544).

READING ROCK: One of Britain's main outdoor rock fests, this is held at Littlejohn's Farm in Berkshire.
Aug 26-28: The Mean Fiddler Organisation, 24-28A Harlesden High Street, London NW10 (081-961 5490).

THREE CHOIRS AT HEREFORD: Cathedral choirs are joined by orchestras and leading artists. There is a celebration of the centenaries of Moeran and Warlock and a premiere of Alan Ridout's new Canticle of Joy.
Aug 21-26: The Three Choirs Festival Secretary, 11, Castle Street, Hereford, HR1 2NL (0568 615223).

VALE OF GLAMORGAN: A celebration of living composers, particularly Peter Sculthorpe (Australia) and Henryk Gorecki (Poland).
Aug 22-28: Festival Office, St Donat's Arts Centre, St Donat's Castle, near Llantwit Major, S. Glamorgan, CF61 1WF (0446 794848).

SEPTEMBER

CARDIFF: The theme is Women in the Arts. The European Women's Orchestra, the (all-female) Crissy Big Band and the dance company, Toutes Femmes, perform. Symphonies by Amy Beach, Grace Williams and Judith Weir are to be heard.
Sept 10-Oct 9: Publicity Office, St David's Hall, The Hayes, Cardiff, Wales (0222 342611).

DEUTSCHE ROMANTIK: A major festival of German Romanticism at the South Bank Centre: art, concerts, films and literary talks.
Sept 29-Jan 8: Box Office, South Bank Centre, London SE1 8XX (071-928 8800).

NORTH WALES AT ST ASAPH: The acoustically fine cathedral in the small town of St Asaph is the venue for orchestral, chamber and choral concerts. Rupert Bawden, the Britten Quartet and Iwan Llewelyn-Jones are scheduled.
Sept 18-24: Festival Office, High Street, St Asaph, Clywd, LL17 0RD (0745 584508).

SALISBURY: This historic cathedral city hosts classical concerts, jazz and folk, kites and juggling.
Sept 3-17: Festival Information, King's House, 65, The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 2EN (0722 323883).

SWANSEA: British orchestras, choirs and ensembles congregate with emphasis on composers of the 20th century from Strauss to Tippett. Welsh National Opera performs *Turandot*, *La Traviata* and *The Makropoulos Case*.
Sept 26-Nov 5: Tourist Information Centre, Singleton Street, Swansea, SA1 3QG (0792-468321: Box Office: 0792 475715).

OCTOBER

CANTERBURY: General jollity with dance, music, street acts and fireworks. The theme is Rites of Passage.
Oct 8-22: Festival Office, Christ Church Gate, The Precincts, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 2EE (0227 452853).

CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE: This year, there are themed days: a Whodunit Day, a Booker Prize Day, and so on. Ralph Steadman is festival artist and impresario.
Oct 7-16: Cheltenham Town Hall, Imperial Square, Cheltenham, Glos. GL0 1QA (0242 521621).

BARBICAN CENTRE SHAKESPEARE: If all goes to plan, Ingmar Bergman will direct *The Winter's Tale*, and Peter Sellars *The Merchant of Venice*. Film versions of the plays will be shown and pertinent music played in St Giles's Cripplegate.
Oct 24-Nov 26: Barbican Centre, Silk Street, Barbican, London, EC2Y 8DS. (071-638 8891).

NORFOLK AND NORWICH: The theme for 1994 is All Things Courtly. The Philharmonia Orchestra is resident, playing Delius's *Mass of Life*. D'Oyly Carte's *Die Fledermaus* pays a flying visit.
Oct 6-16: Festival Shop, The Guildhall, Gaol Hill, Norwich, NR2 1NF (0603 764764).

CONTEMPORARY ARCHIVES NOW '94: An important annual international festival of avant-garde live art.
Oct 21-Nov 19: Contemporary Archives Information, c/o Nottingham City Council, 51, Castle Gate, Nottingham, NG1 6AF (0602 483500).

● **Next Wednesday: European festivals**

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

071-782 7344

FINANCIAL NOTICES

ROBECO GROUP

ROBECO N.V.
(investment company with a variable capital)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Thursday, 21st April, 1994, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam, at 9.30 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. To receive and adopt the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1993
3. To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year 1993
4. To determine the appropriation of the profit
5. To compose the Board of Supervisory Directors:
   Mr. C.J. Oort is scheduled to retire. Mr. Oort has agreed to stand for re-election. A proposal will be submitted to re-elect him.
   It will be proposed to appoint Mr H.H.F. Wijffels a Supervisory Director.
6. Any other business

Copies of the full agenda and of the Annual Report for 1993 can be obtained from National Westminster Bank PLC, Stock Office Services Basement , Juno Court, 24 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB or Robeco U.K. Limited, 4 Carlos Place, Mayfair, London W1Y 5AE. Telephone: 071 409 3507.

Holders of Share Warrants to Bearer desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting, should lodge their Share Warrants by hand (postal deliveries will not be accepted for voting purposes) with the National Westminster Bank PLC, Stock Office Services, Basement, Juno Court, 24 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB (between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) in exchange for a receipt, not later than Thursday, 14th April, 1994.

Beneficial owners whose Share Warrants are presently deposited with a Bank must obtain a Certificate of Deposit signed by the Bank as evidence that such Bank is holding the Share Warrants. The Certificate of Deposit must be lodged against receipt, by that Bank, with the National Westminster Bank PLC, in accordance with the requirements stated above.

The receipt for the Share Warrants or Certificate of Deposit will constitute evidence of a Shareholder's entitlement to attend and vote at the Meeting and should be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall. If a holder desires to appoint a proxy, who need not be a member of the Company, to attend and vote in his stead, a form of proxy may be obtained from the National Westminster Bank PLC as above and this form of proxy must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt for the Share Warrants or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-share Certificates registered in the name of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting must obtain a receipt or Certificate of Deposit in the same way as holders of Share Warrants to Bearer. If they desire to attend the Meeting in person or to be represented they must obtain a form of proxy signed by National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, which form must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt exchanged for the Sub-share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-shares registered in any name other than that of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, holders of Registered Full Shares and Shareholders who maintain a Shareholder's Account with the Company wishing to attend and vote at the Meeting or to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in their stead, must signify their intention in writing to the Secretary, Robeco N.V., Coolsingel 120, NL-3011 AG, Rotterdam, Netherlands to arrive not later than Thursday, 14th April, 1994.

Service contracts are not entered into with the Directors, who hold office in accordance with the Articles of Association.

BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT
Dated this 30th day of March, 1994
P.O. BOX 973
Rotterdam

ROLINCO N.V.
(investment company with a variable capital)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Thursday, 21st April, 1994, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam, at 11.45 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. To receive and adopt the Report of the Management Board for the financial year 1993
3. To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year 1993.
4. To determine the appropriation of the profit
5. To compose the Board of Supervisory Directors:
   Mr. C.J. Oort is scheduled to retire and has agreed to stand for re-election.
   A proposal will be submitted to re-elect him.
   It will be proposed to appoint Mr. H.H.F. Wijffels a Supervisory Director
6. Any other business

Copies of the full agenda and of the Annual Report for 1993 can be obtained from National Westminster Bank PLC, Stock Office Services Basement , Juno Court, 24 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB or Robeco U.K. Limited, 4 Carlos Place, Mayfair, London W1Y 5AE. Telephone: 071 409 3507.

Holders of Share Warrants to Bearer desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting, should lodge their Share Warrants by hand (postal deliveries will not be accepted for voting purposes) with the National Westminster Bank PLC, Stock Office Services, Basement, Juno Court, 24 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB (between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) in exchange for a receipt, not later than Thursday, 14th April, 1994.

Beneficial owners whose Share Warrants are presently deposited with a Bank must obtain a Certificate of Deposit signed by the Bank as evidence that such Bank is holding the Share Warrants. The Certificate of Deposit must be lodged against receipt, by that Bank, with the National Westminster Bank PLC, in accordance with the requirements stated above.

The receipt for the Share Warrants or Certificate of Deposit will constitute evidence of a Shareholder's entitlement to attend and vote at the Meeting and should be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall. If a holder desires to appoint a proxy, who need not be a member of the Company, to attend and vote in his stead, a form of proxy may be obtained from the National Westminster Bank PLC as above and this form of proxy must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt for the Share Warrants or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-share Certificates registered in the name of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited desirous of attending or being represented at the Meeting must obtain a receipt or Certificate of Deposit in the same way as holders of Share Warrants to Bearer. If they desire to attend the Meeting in person or to be represented they must obtain a form of proxy signed by National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, which form must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt exchanged for the Sub-share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Beneficial owners of Sub-shares registered in any name other than that of National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited, holders of Registered Full Shares and Shareholders who maiatain a Shareholder's Account with the Company wishing to attend and vote at the Meeting or to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in their stead, must signify their intention in writing to the Secretary, Rolinco N.V., Coolsingel 120, NL-3011 AG, Rotterdam, Netherlands to arrive not later than Thursday, 14th April, 1994.

Service contracts are not entered into with the Directors, who hold office in accordance with the Articles of Association.

BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT
Dated this 30th day of March, 1994
P.O. BOX 973
Rotterdam

RORENTO N.V.
(investment company with a variable capital)

INFORMATIVE MEETING FOR SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Thursday, 21st April, 1994, at Concert and Congress building "de Doelen", entrance Kruisplein 30, Rotterdam, at 14.30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. To discuss the Report of the Board of Directors for the financial year 1993
3. To discuss the Annual Accounts for the financial year 1993
4. To discuss the appropriation of the profit
5. To discuss the composition of the Board of Supervisory Directors:
   Mr. C.J. Oort is scheduled to retire
   It will be proposed to the General Meeting of Shareholders to re-elect him.
   It will be proposed to the General Meeting of Shareholders to appoint Mr. H.H.F. Wijffels a Supervisory Director.
6. Any other business

RORENTO N.V.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on Tuesday, 26th April, 1994, at Zeelandia Business Centre, Polariaweg 28, Willemstad, Curacao (Netherlands Antilles), at 10.30 a.m.

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. To receive and adopt the Report of the Board of Directors for the financial year 1993
3. To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts for the financial year 1993
4. To determine the appropriation of the profit
5. To compose the Board of Supervisory Directors:
   Mr C.J. Oort is scheduled to retire.
   It will be proposed to re-elect him.
   It will be proposed to appoint Mr. H.H.F. Wijffels a Supervisory Director.
6. Any other business

Holders of Share Certificate to Bearer desirous of attending or being represented at the above stated Meetings, should lodge their Share Certificates by hand (postal deliveries will not be accepted) with the National Westminster Bank PLC, stock office Services, Basement, Juno Court, 24 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB (between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.) as follows: INFORMATIVE MEETING - NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY, 14TH APRIL, 1994. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY, 19TH APRIL, 1994, IN EXCHANGE FOR A RECEIPT.

Beneficial owners whose Share Certificates are presently deposited with a Bank must obtain a Certificate of Deposit signed by the Bank as evidence that such Bank is holding the Share Certificates. This Certificate must be lodged against receipt, by that Bank, with the National Westminster Bank PLC, in accordance with the requirements stated above.

The receipt for the Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit will constitute evidence of a shareholder's entitlement to attend and vote at the Meeting and should be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall. If a holder desires to appoint a proxy, who need not be a member of the Company, to attend and vote in his stead, a form of proxy may be obtained from the National Westminster Bank PLC as above and this form of proxy must be presented at the door of the Meeting Hall together with the receipt for the Share Certificates or Certificate of Deposit.

Shareholders who maintain a Shareholder's Account with the Company, wishing to attend either or both Meetings or to appoint a proxy in their stead, must signify their intention in writing to the Secretary, Rorento N.V. c/o Avirento B.V., Coolsingel 120, NL-3011 AG, Rotterdam, Netherlands to arrive not later than the dates indicated above.

Although proxies may attend, votes will not be cast at the Informative Meeting.

Copies of the full agendas and of the Annual Report for 1993 can be obtained from National Westminster Bank PLC at the address shown above or Robeco U.K. Limited, 4 Carlos Place, Mayfair, London W1Y 5AE. Telephone: 071 409 3507.

Service contracts are not entered into with the Directors, who hold office in accordance with the Articles of Association.

BY ORDER OF THE MANAGEMENT
ST. MAARTEN
Dated this 30th day of March, 1994

LEGAL NOTICES

NATURALLY GOOD LIMITED
Company Number: 02751868
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5HG on 8 April 1994 at 12.00pm for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act, the appointment of a Liquidator and a Liquidation Committee.
Mr D B Coakley of Leech Bright & Partners, Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford Surrey GU2 5HG is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the company and will furnish creditors with such information concerning the company's affairs as is reasonably required.
Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged with the company's registered office at Leech Bright & Partners, Barratt House, Chestnut Avenue, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5HG not later than 12 noon on 7 April 1994.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Mr Roger David
Director
Dated: 22 March 1994

1994 No.16 COS
IN THE HIGH COURT
IN THE MATTER OF
M.F. KENT & COMPANY (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED
TREENAGH INVESTMENT COMPANY
DARWAY COMPANY
UKEN (RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT) LIMITED
(Under the Protection of the Court)
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1990
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 17 of the Companies (Amendment) Act, 1990 that by Order of the High Court made on 24th day of March, 1994 it was directed that a hearing to consider matters arising out of the report of the Examiner made in respect of the above named companies under Section 15 of the Act be held at the Four Courts, Dublin, Ireland on Wednesday, 13th day of April, 1994 at 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon and that any creditor or member of the said companies who wishes to be heard at the time of the said hearing may appear by himself or by counsel for that purpose and a copy of the said Report will be furnished to any creditor or member of the said companies who requires it by the undersigned on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 28th day of March, 1994.
Signed: WILLIAM FRY
Solicitors for the Examiner
Fitzwilton House
Wilton Place
Dublin 2
Ireland

No. 001698 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF C. CZARNIKOW SUGAR LIMITED
-and-
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 14th Day of March, 1994 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the amount standing to the credit of the share premium account of the above-named Company by £8,468,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice Strand London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 13th day of April, 1994.
Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 30th day of March 1994
Masters Macfarlanes
10 Norwich Street
London EC4A 1BD
Ref: JRSO/826313/868501
Solicitors for the above-named Company

Pursuant to Section 46 of The Insolvency Act 1986
TRADE COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED
Registered No: 2736594
Trading or Other Names: Formerly Pantelicos Limited
Joint Administrative Receivers: Maurice Raymond Darrington FIPA and Eric William Sheppard of Poppleton & Appleby 4, Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN
Date of appointment: 16 March 1994
By whom appointed: The Grocery Partnership Limited
Date of Mortgage Debenture: 4 November 1992
Assets Secured: The whole of the assets of the company
Dated the 16 day of March 1994
M.R. Darrington and E.W. Sheppard, Joint Administrative Receivers

Rhona Roy Overseas Limited
Registered Number: 53388
Trading Name: Rhona Roy Overseas Limited
Nature of Business: Clothing Wholesale
Trade Classification: 13
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver: 17 March 1994
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receiver: Banque Internationale a Luxembourg
Names of persons appointed: G C A Morphits of Cape & Dalgleish, 401 St John Street, London EC1V 4LH. (Office Holder No. 4225). Administrative Receiver.

RHONA ROY PLC
Registered Number: 2326586
Trading Name: Rhona Roy Plc
Nature of Business: Clothing Wholesale
Trade Classification: 13
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receiver: 9 March 1994
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receiver: Banque Internationale a Luxembourg
Names of persons appointed G C A Morphits of Cape Dalgleish, 401 St John Street, London EC1V 4LH. (Office Holder No 4225). Administrative Receiver

TO the Clerk to the Licensing Justices for The Licensing District of Barnet. Barnet Magistrates' Court, High Street, Barnet, Herts EN5 5XZ
TO the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, Colders Green Police Station, 1069 Finchley Road, Colders Green, London N.W 11.
TO the Town Clerk of the London Borough of Barnet, Town Hall, The Burroughs, London N W 4.
TO the Chief Officer, L F C.D.A., North Area Fire Safety Branch 5-6 City Forum, City Road, London EC1V 2NY.
WE, DAVID SALZMAN now residing at 84 Lingwood Road, London E5 9BN, having during the past six months carried on the trade or calling of Proprietor of a Grocery Store, and GOLDIE SALZMAN now residing at 84 Lingwood Road, London E5 9BN, having during the past six months carried on the trade or calling of Proprietor of a Grocery Store do hereby give you notice that it is our intention to apply at the Transfer Sessions for the said District to be held at The Court House, High Street, Barnet, Hertfordshire on the 14th day of April 1994 for the grant to us of a Justices' Licence authorising us to sell by retail intoxicating liquor of all descriptions for consumption off the premises situate at 1099 Finchley Road, London N.W 11 and known by the sign of MOSHE
Of which premises we are the owners.
DATED the 22nd day of March 1994
Messrs of 11 Station Road, Hariesden, London NW10 4UD
Solicitors and Agents for the Applicants.

TRUE COUNTRY INNS LTD
(In Administrative Receivership)
Registered Number: 2681584
Former company name. Dawnspirit Limited
Trading name. True Country Inns Limited
Nature of business. Public Houses
Trade classification. 48
Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 11 March 1994
Name of person appointing the administrative receivers R & I Bank of Western Australia Ltd
Administrative Receivers. Grant M Jones and Patrick Bernard Harrington, (office holder nos 1067 and 781 of Morrison Stoneham, 805 Salisbury House, 31 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 5SQ.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE ALL YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS
PLEASE CALL CONNIE EDWARDS

TEL: 071-782 7344 or FAX: 071-481 9313

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUCK nee COX ROSE FLORENCE BUCK nee COX WIDOW late of Brighton, East Sussex died there on or about 20 May 1993
(Estate about £28,000)

GREER. THOMAS GREER late of Feltham, Middlesex died at Ashford, Middlesex on 16 November 1992
(Estate about £14,400)

GRIEF. MARGARET JUANITA GRIEFF SPINSTER late of Sunderland, Tyne & Wear died there on 23 November 1992
(Estate about £6,000)

LILLYWHITE. WALTER ALFRED LILLYWHITE late of Bristol, Avon died there on 13 May 1992
(Estate about £9,000)

MATSON otherwise WHITE. RAS DAMJAI MATSON otherwise DANI MATSON otherwise KAREL ALFRED NEVILLE WHITE late of Shepherds Bush, London W12 died there on 6 November 1989
(Estate about £10,000)

NIXON ADAM NIXON late of Tooting London SW17 died there on 6 May 1993
(Estate about £17,000)

PARKER. EDWARD PARKER late of Barkingside, Essex died at Barking, Essex on 8 March 1992
(Estate about £24,000)

SKETCHLEY. ERIC SKETCHLEY otherwise ARTHUR ERIC SKETCHLEY otherwise ERIC ARTHUR SKETCHLEY late of Lichfield, Staffordshire died at Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands on 3 December 1993
(Estate about £50,000)

TAIT. ALEXANDER MACKAY TAIT late of Weymouth, Dorset died at Dorchester, Dorset on 26 April 1992
(Estate about £6,600)

TALKER. LIONEL WILLIAM TALKER late of Poplar, London E14 died there on 2 March 1993
(Estate about £11,700)

WHYMANT nee SHIELS. CLARA LILIAN WHYMANT otherwise CLARE SHIELS WIDOW late of Peterborough, Cambridgeshire died there on 13 January 1991
(estate about £60,000)

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (RVI, Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate

LEGAL NOTICES

FOREST DRAWING OFFICE SUPPLIES LTD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Trevor House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1LU on 8.4.94 at 10.00am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of A Segal & Co., Trevor House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, between 10.00a.m. and 4.00 p.m. as from 6.4.94. Dated: 25.3.94. R E Dobinson (Director)

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
VIBRO-ACOUSTIC SYSTEMS LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Hilton National Hotel, Coppice Road, Stanstead Airport, Stanstead, CM24 8SE on the Seventh day of April 1994 at 11.00am for the purposes, if thought fit, of nominating a Liquidator and of appointing a Liquidation Committee. Any proxy to be used at the meeting must be lodged at George House, 50 George Square, Glasgow, G2 1RR not later than 12 noon on the business day prior to the meeting. A statement of claim must also be lodged.

NOTICE is also given that, for the purpose of voting, secured creditors must (unless they surrender their security) lodge a statement giving particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and the value at which they estimate it.

John Charles Jeffrey Readman, George House, 50 George Square, Glasgow, G2 1RR is qualified to act as an insolvency practitioner in relation to the above-named company and will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the affairs of the company as they may reasonably require

Dated this Twenty eighth day of March 1994
A S Fergusson, Secretary

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 RULE 4.106(1)
ECLAT INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
IN CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ian Frames, Licenced Insolvency Practitioner of Ian Frames Associates, Cowdell House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP was appointed Liquidator of the above-named company on the 24th March 1994.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to Mr Ian Frames at Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP.
I Frames
Liquidator

LUDGATE GROUP LIMITED
(Registered No 2561938)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 175 of the Companies Act 1985 ("the Act") that Ludgate Group Limited ("the Company") has, by Special Resolution passed on 25 March 1994, pursuant to Section 173 of the Act, approved a payment out of capital for the purpose of acquiring its own shares by redemption. The amount of the permissable capital payment for the shares in question is £274,010.60. The statutory declaration of the directors of the Company and the auditors' report required by Section 173 of the Act are available for inspection at the registered office of the Company at 111 Charterhouse Street, London EC1M 6AA. Any creditor of the Company may at any time prior to 28 April 1994 apply to the Court under Section 176 of the Act for an order prohibiting the payment.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
J C Mathias
Secretary
Dated 30 March 1994

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS
F K ROOFING LIMITED
IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP

Registered Number: 1347990
Nature of business. Industrial roofing and cladding contractors.
Trade Classification: 23
Date of appointment of Administrative Receivers: 24th March 1994
Name of Person Appointing Administrative Receivers: The Co-Operative Bank Plc.
Alan John Sutton and Robert Henry Barker, Joint Administrative Receivers, Office Holder No's 5938 and 6619. Baker Tilly, Chartered Accountants, Brazennose House, Lincoln Square, Manchester, M2 5BL.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
FAMILY DIVISION
No 11 of 1994

In the matter of MRS BERTHA COBBOLD (NEE WHEATLEY) take notice that an Application has been made for an Order in the following terms:
1. That Patricia Anne Lewis of 16 Meadow Lane, Ringstead, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN14 4TZ, a great niece of Bertha Cobbold deceased be appointed to represent the interests of all those persons whose interests in the estate of Bertha Cobbold deceased would be affected if an order for rectification of the said will were not made;
2. That service of the application for rectification and of this order on all persons other than the said Patricia Anne Lewis be dispensed with;
3. That the said will of Bertha Cobbold deceased, late of Biggleswade Nursing Home, Shortmead Street, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, who died domiciled in England and Wales on the 25th March 1992, be rectified under Section 20(1) of the Administration of Justice Act 1982 as follows:
That part of clause 8 of the said will which as executed reads:
"my Trustees shall hold the net proceeds of the said sale and conversion of my ready money upon trust to pay thereout all my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses and subject thereto to divide the same between my sister Florence Mabel Barker and my said nephew Edward Charles Barker in equal shares absolutely"
be deleted and replaced as follows:
"my Trustees shall hold the net proceeds of the said sale and conversion and my ready money upon trust to pay thereout all my just debts funeral and testamentary expenses and subject thereto upon trust for such of my sister Florence Mabel Barker and my said nephew Edward Charles Barker as shall survive me and if more than one equal shares absolutely"
ANY PERSON having an interest in the estate of the above named, or an interest in the drawing of the above order, should contact Messrs Leeds Day Solicitors (Reference BSLET) of 6 Bedford Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire. Telephone 0767 680251. Fax 0767 691775. DX Number 47801 Sandy.
Within 28 days of the appearance of this advertisement.

TO the Clerk to the Licensing Justices for The Licensing District of Barnet. Barnet Magistrates' Court, High Street, Barnet, Herts EN5 5XZ
TO the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, Colders Green Police Station, 1069 Finchley Road, Colders Green, London N.W 11.
TO the Town Clerk of the London Borough of Barnet, Town Hall, The Burroughs, London N W 4.
TO the Chief Officer, L F C.D.A., North Area Fire Safety Branch 5-6 City Forum, City Road, London EC1V 2NY.
WE, DAVID SALZMAN now residing at 84 Lingwood Road, London E5 9BN, having during the past six months carried on the trade or calling of Proprietor of a Grocery Store, and GOLDIE SALZMAN now residing at 84 Lingwood Road, London E5 9BN, having during the past six months carried on the trade or calling of Proprietor of a Grocery Store do hereby give you notice that it is our intention to apply at the Transfer Sessions for the said District to be held at The Court House, High Street, Barnet, Hertfordshire on the 14th day of April 1994 for the grant to us of a Justices' Licence authorising us to sell by retail intoxicating liquor of all descriptions for consumption off the premises situate at 1099 Finchley Road, London N.W 11 and known by the sign of MOSHE
Of which premises we are the owners.
DATED the 22nd day of March 1994
Messrs of 11 Station Road, Hariesden, London NW10 4UD
Solicitors and Agents for the Applicants.

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

ADMINISTRATOR/ RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT
Required for a small specialist agency. Must be capable, enthusiastic, organised and have the ability to work on their own initiative in a small team environment. Property or Recruitment experience beneficial but not essential. £13,000.
Estate Agency Rec WB
Tel: 071 938 3855.

MEDICAL PA ADMINISTRATOR
£17,000 + Benefits
Excellent career prospects with leading organisation for excellent Medical Sec who wants an admin orientated role at the highest level.
Ring Katherine 071 589 1886.
St James's Consultancy.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
Sought by MD of dynamic and highly successful Architectural firm. Intelligent and organised with sound secretarial skills. Knowledge of German desirable. £18-£20K
Maverick Gould Ltd
071 588 7172

UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER

Transport Studies Group
Office Manager/Administrator
PA to the Director

c. £15,000

The Transport Studies Group (TSG) is a well established and expanding research centre within the University with strong international contacts. As it takes on an increasing volume of high profile consultancy and academic research its new Director is seeking someone with excellent administrative skills to perform a wide range of support activities within a busy working environment.

You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the TSG office, which will include the administration of some research accounts and all aspects of the various TSG publications, plus frequent liaison with staff and clients at all levels. You will also be involved in minute-taking, invoicing and arranging overseas travel.

To make a real success of this demanding post you must be a confident, experienced PA/secretary with a sound knowledge of word processing packages (preferably Wordperfect), a good level of numeracy, strong powers of organisation and book keeping skills. Equally important is that you are a mature decision maker and are able to work on your own initiative.

Closing date: 19 April 1994

For an application form and further details, send an A4 sized, stamped self-addressed envelope, clearly marked Ref: 358/ENV, to Kathy Morgan, Personnel Department, 115 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 8JS.

We operate a 'No Smoking' policy which limits smoking to designated areas.

An equal opportunities employer.

PA/Secretary Personnel to £20,000

Our clients, a large firm of solicitors based in modern offices in the City of London, now require an experienced secretary (ideally a graduate) to join their Personnel Department team.

With a myriad of administrative duties such as arranging interviews, booking temporary staff, making arrangements for training sessions, in addition to the more routine tasks, the successful candidate will find that no two days are the same!

Candidates must have fast and accurate audio/WP skills (Wang VS is used), a flair for using computer databases, an eye for detail with an interest in using graphics packages, and be flexible about hours - the department is a busy one. A non-smoker is essential.

Applications, which must be in writing, will be forwarded direct to our client. Please mark envelopes CFI and address your application to Crone Corkill & Associates Ltd, 29 Sans Street, London EC2M 2PS.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Spring Ahead!
Up to £10ph

We are looking for flexible, professional temps to join our extremely busy temporary team which is always in demand. It's getting busier all the time, so if you are available to temp we need you now!
We pay excellent hourly rates for your skills and experience. We also give you interesting, varied assignments where your contribution is really appreciated.
Please ring Sally or Clare now to join the team - it's a step in the right direction!

071-434 4512
Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TRADING FLOOR

22K package

If you would like to be exceptionally well-paid and have one of the most exciting jobs in London, please read on.

We have a position that is unique in terms of opportunity for involvement and that will ensure your communication skills are used to the full.

Ideally you should have at least six months experience, a vivacious personality and not be frightened of hard work.

French or other languages could be useful.

Call us for more information 071 726 8491.

Angela Mortimer

TEMP-TATION

Top rates are on offer for first class secretaries with 55 wpm typing and Word for Windows experience. We have many temporary assignments with prestigious companies to suit your skills and experience. Cross training for bookings is available. Call Jane Connelly at Tate Appointments on 071 408 0424

Tate

INVEST IN YOURSELF

Due to recently secured large contracts, we require professional WP Secretaries to work in a large variety of London's top companies.

For ongoing work, excellent rates + free x-training.
Call Steve or Carole on 071 408 0300

299 Oxford Street, London W1R 1LA
Tel: 071 408 0300
Fax: 071 495 5908

quatro

EDITOR'S P.A.
Min 28 yrs, with good admin skills, for professional journal.
CV to Micheal Chambers Orbach & Chambers Ltd 74 Long Lane London EC1A 9ET

MARKETING SEC
£15,000 +
New position in financial co for young secretary (20-25). Work alongside secretary helping with large volume of work generated by 4 people. Word for Windows essential and prof Powerpoint. Lovely people to work for and perks include free lunch, sports club m'ship, bonus & more!
Call 071 606 2291 C & S Personnel.

PROPERTY SEC
to £18,000 ++
City investment house seeks polished secretary with flawless typing and Word for Windows. Property background an asset. Superb benefits inc. free lunches, sports club m'ship, performance bonus etc. Age range 25-35.
Call Patricia 071 606 2411 C & S Personnel.

SENIOR SECRETARY
£18,000 **W1**
to assist PA in general duties. Must have 80 wpm shorthand. Initiative & aged around 30 with senior level experience. Some music biog. when PA absent.
Call Sonya Clampert on 071-434 1801 REED EMPLOYMENT

EXECUTIVE PAs
To £18,000 + benefits

We are currently recruiting for a large number of Blue Chip PLCs throughout central London. Our clients are looking for top class professional secretaries at all levels. These posts require well presented, dynamic, well qualified individuals. Not only will you be financially rewarded but you will have the opportunity to develop your career to its full potential. For more information call:

Geraldine Wright
131 - 133 Cannon Street
London EC4N 5AX
Telephone: 071 626 8315
Fax: 071 283 7526

Jane McGinley
19 - 23 Oxford Street
London W1R 2AT
Telephone: 071 437 9030
Fax: 071 287 8790

CHALLONER JAMES

ADMINISTRATOR/RESEARCHER

EMA, the European Motorsport Association was established in 1993 to promote motorsport, develop links between all areas of the sport and benefit members by providing competitive services. Founder members are Brands Hatch Leisure, Le Mans and Nürburgring.

We now require an experienced administrator who is able to work with minimum supervision. You will be involved in all aspects of the Association, in particular membership administration, investigating and recommending sources of supply for goods and services, research into legal and environmental issues throughout Europe, their impact on motorsport, and appropriate policy recommendations.

The successful applicant will be multi lingual, German and French preferred. A flexible attitude, commitment, sound administrative and organisation skills are a prerequisite for this new position which will be based at Brands Hatch and will report to the Chief Executive.

Applications together with a CV and current salary details should be sent to:

Ms Elizabeth John
Brands Hatch Leisure plc
Fawkham
Longfield
Kent DA3 8NG

Ref: EMA.PAC/ADMINISTRATOR

THE TIMES SUPPLEMENTS LIMITED

SECRETARY TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Salary; £18,500 Hours; 9am to 5.00

We are seeking a first class secretary, educated to A level standard, to work for the Managing Director of The Times Supplements Limited.

You should have at least eight years secretarial experience and will be currently working at a senior level.

In addition to excellent administrative and secretarial skills (shorthand not essential), the successful applicant will work well under pressure, have a positive and pleasant personality together with interpersonal skills.

Applications in writing enclosing CV together with daytime telephone number to Brenda Hemmings, Recruitment Manager, News International Newspapers Limited, PO Box 481 Virginia Street, London E1 9BD.

THE TIMES PROFESSIONAL SECRETARY OF THE YEAR AWARDS 1994

This prestigious competition is now open to all career secretaries and PAs, both male and female. Now in its third year, the competition is seeking excellence, total professionalism, commitment and integrity in the workplace.

THE LONDON SECRETARY & OFFICE MANAGEMENT SHOW

The awards are organised in conjunction with the London Secretary and Office Management Show, to be held at the Barbican from April 19 - 21.

Entries must be on an official entry form, obtained only from the Show organisers' telephone hotline: 071-233 8068.

Employers are also warmly invited to request entry forms for their staff. The forms include a section to be completed in endorsement of an individual's entry.

A superb prize package is available to the winners. It includes two Lufthansa business class flights to anywhere in Europe, two Mercury One-2-One handsets, clothes from Wallis, Fiorelli accessories, a course from the Industrial Society, PC World starter packs and much more. Employers endorsing entries will be entered in a draw for prizes including a day at a racehorse trainers' yard from the Market Racing Agency and lunch or dinner at London's much-praised Canal Brasserie.

Mercury one2one · Lufthansa
PC WORLD · FIORELLI · Wallis

Organised in conjunction with The Industrial Society

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 071 481 9994 (Trade)

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX: 071 782 7828

PA/PERSONNEL ASSISTANT
Public Relations W1 c.£14,000

Top 10 consumer PR Consultancy urgently requires a secretary / PA with an interest in Personnel to work principally for one director. In addition to secretarial duties, a varied workload includes personnel administration, research, assisting at press events and some account handling support. Spreadsheet skills a distinct advantage. Young environment.

For further information, please send your CV to Len Pritchard at HR Solutions, New Loom House, 101 Back Church Lane, London E1 1LU or telephone him on 071 702 3033 / 081 693 1372 (eve's).

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
(7 months fixed term contract maternity leave cover, end May - end December)

A highly organised person, with first class office skills is sought to assist busy M.D. of successful West End advertising agency specialising in Theatre and Entertainment.

Experience at senior level is essential due to regular client contact. The successful candidate will also need to liaise with other departments internally and should therefore have a working knowledge of agency procedures - both creative and administrative.

Initiative, flexibility, confidence and a sense of humour are all vital qualities for someone genuinely interested in our business.

Salary is negotiable. We offer a friendly, attractive working environment and though this appointment is for an initial 7 months, future career prospects are possible.

[illegible] to: Diane Warren, Dewynters Plc, 43 Leicester Square, London, WC2H 7QD.

THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT
SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE EDITOR
SALARY COMMENSURATE WITH POSITION
HOURS; 9.30 am - 5.30 pm

We are looking for a Secretary/Personal Assistant, preferably a graduate, with previous experience at senior level who has excellent secretarial skills (100 wpm shorthand, 60wpm typing, Wordperfect for Windows).

Varied work day where you will be involved in office administration/management, arranging travel, diary management and numerous other administrative duties.

The key attributes for this position are: good organisational and communication skills, a professional and flexible approach together with evidence of initiative and enthusiasm.

Applications in writing enclosing CV together with daytime telephone number to Brenda Hemmings, Recruitment Manager, News International Newspapers Limited, PO Box 481, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD.

Maine-Tucker
Executive Recruitment

A YEAR'S WORK EXPERIENCE?
Circa £14,000 + Bonus

Time to leave your very junior job & spoil yourself with something a little more satisfying! This lavish Knightsbridge company want a confident possible 1st jobber to become a much appreciated 2nd jobber. They're a young team (20's/30's). It's an international company & they're successful. You won't be starting as a PA, neither will you be "the junior". But you will be a valued team member providing a much needed secretarial support (*no shorthand*, 55+ typing) alongside charming colleagues. If you want variety & you're desperate to make your next secretarial move, please call.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 071 734 7341

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

Required for an expanding South West based Technical Recruitment Agency for its new W1 office. The selected candidate must be able to deal with Clients/Contractors, advertising responses, extensive telephone work and general office duties and have a sound knowledge of computer systems. The secretarial skills required are 60/100 wpm with Word or Wordperfect in a windows environment. Good interpersonal skills, the ability to use initiative and work with minimal supervision are prerequisite. Salary range £16K-20K dependent on experience. Age range 26-36. References will be taken up.

Apply in writing to John Richardson, WA Consultants; General Building, Greenway Rd, Torquay, Devon, TQ1 4QB. Fax: 0803 314 885

Judy Farquharson Ltd.

PERSONNEL & TRAINING OFFICER preferably IPM or ITD graduate producing cost effective training & occupational health services, project work, pay & conditions studies & staff management for leading UK advisory body in WC1. c£19,000.

CHAIRMAN'S PA with excellent shorthand & typing & board level experience to work for an interesting man well known in publishing & the arts. £20-25,000.

PA/SECRETARY with 100/60+ speeds & preferably Chemistry A-level & at least two years' experience for consultancy. Millbank. c£22,000.

47 New Bond St. London W1Y 9HA
Tel: 071-493 8824 Fax: 071-493 7161
JFL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

£17,000 OIL CO.

This busy senior executive requires a PA secretary with shorthand/WP 5.1 and ability to deal with large percentage of administration as he is keen to delegate. Would suit candidate age 20-30 with a flexible outgoing personality.

First Choice Appointments
Call Dawn on 071 724 7657
or Fax CV's on 071 724 0775.

SECRETARY

Sought for small friendly office in Victoria. Involving role. Sound secretarial skills, including minute taking ability, and good telephone manner required. Apple Macintosh experience preferred. Suit adaptable individual with ability to prioritise. Successful applicant will need to integrate with existing staff. Non-smoker. Salary Circa £15,000, according to age and experience.

Applications in writing with CV to:
PRCA, Willow House, Willow Place, Victoria, London SW1P 1JH.

Aim for the Top

Secretary
£15-16,000 plus excellent package

This US Investment Bank is currently seeking a bright, proactive Secretary to work for a team of dynamic young professionals. You will have excellent communication skills and organisational abilities, and be able to use your initiative in a challenging and exciting environment. If you have sound secretarial experience, good typing skills and knowledge of a second European language, contact Angela Mortimer (Rec Cons) now on 071 726 8491.

High Flying Temps
£9.00 per hour min.

Our client, a dynamic US investment house requires top calibre temp secretaries for ongoing assignments at all levels. If you have excellent skills, preferably City experience, a professional and committed attitude to work, we can offer involving positions in a fast moving environment, excellent perks, top rates and commmons.

Fashion, PR, Music, Finance, Advertising, Publishing
We are at the moment handling immediate temporary and temp. to perm. vacancies at all levels from @ 13 - 30k in the above industries. To make sure you DON'T MISS OUT on these exciting opportunities call us NOW on 071 726 8491.

Angela Mortimer

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
c£15,500 pa

English Heritage is England's foremost organisation for the conservation of historic buildings and monuments throughout the country. Our Research and Development team is at the forefront of research in these areas of activity.

As Personal Assistant to the Director of our Research and Professional Service Group, you can play a key role in ensuring that the necessary administrative support is given to turn policy into practice. The Director of RPS heads up our Efficiency Review Group and you would be involved in developing English Heritage's Efficiency Review Programme. Equally, you will also undertake traditional secretarial work (for which maturity and a high degree of skill and efficiency are required).

In addition the Director is about to take up a one year external appointment which will involve you in managing a wide ranging programme of visits throughout the UK and Europe.

This calls for an exceptional PA who ideally will have the ability to take shorthand, who must have experience of Wordperfect 5.1, who has a sympathy for our aims and can demonstrate a great deal of commitment to the work.

In return for your professional approach and skills, you will enjoy an unusual and rewarding environment, and benefits which include an index-linked, non-contributory pension scheme and life cover, together with performance-related pay.

Please write, enclosing your full CV and current salary details, quoting Ref. R/31/94 to Lucy Riordan, Personnel Department, English Heritage, Bond Street House, 14 Clifford Street, London W1X 1RB. Telephone 071 973 3878.

The closing date for the receipt of applications is 13th April 1994. Interviews will be held on 4th May 1994.

English Heritage is committed to an equal opportunities policy.

English Heritage

Good Housekeeping

PA TO COOKERY EDITOR

Britain's leading food magazine is looking for a PA/secretary.

The successful candidate will probably be in their early 20s and will need to have good secretarial skills, in addition to being a competent cook.

Aspects of this varied job include responding to readers letters, answering the cookery advice hotline and inputting and proof reading copy.

Write with CV and current salary to:
Catherine Sharman, Personnel Officer, The National Magazine Company, 72 Broadwick Street, London W1V 2BP

"TEMP TO PERM" OPPORTUNITIES

We have numerous long-term and "temp to perm" vacancies within media and publishing companies. Permanent salaries range from £14,000 to £20,000. All require solid secretarial/PA experience, excellent technical skills (minimum 80 wpm shorthand) and a keen, positive attitude. Suitable applicants must be available to start within 1 week.

Please telephone for further details.

Appointments in Language
3 Princes Street, London W1R 7RA
Tel: 071 734 3380/071 355 1975 Fax: 071 499 0568

POWERPOINT TEMPS

We are currently recruiting temps with excellent skills on Powerpoint and Word for Windows for a major new client. We have immediate bookings for professional temps who are real team players to work for this fast-moving international company. We pay top hourly rates, so if you have the experience we need please ring Clare or Sally now on: 071-434 4512.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SENIOR SECRETARY

Circa £20,000 + Bens. The Chief Executive of this Major Public Relations firm is seeking a professional secretary to organise his life and the day to day running of the office. You will be responsible for all administration, and the organisation of his int'l travel and meetings. A major part of your role will involve maintaining up to date information on P.R. matters, therefore an interest in this area is essential. If you are a professional, down to earth secretary with a sense of humour and the ability to use S-H as only 5% of the job, please telephone: KATHY, 071 247 1517.
DEVONSHIRE PERSONNEL LTD.

Team Work to £18,000 + bens

Variety will be the key word when you work for this successful, young and social software company in Covent Garden. International travel arrangements, diary co-ordination and secretarial support are all in a days work. Excellent WP and typing skills, good GCE's and an ability to respond to pressure are essential. Age 25-35. Please telephone Kate Hodson on 071 377 8827.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARY/PA

Salary Negotiable
For partners in a friendly, casual, expanding firm of architects/developers. Must have a pleasant telephone manner, be decisive, show initiative and be flexible. No agencies Please.

Please write with your CV to: Mr B. Payne, Walker Payne Estates, The Sidings, 185 West End Lane, West Hampstead, London NW6 2LJ.
Fax 071 624 8168
Tel 071 624 9477

Superior Support
C.£17,500 plus banking benefits

Support area to the trading floor of this American Investment Bank in the City have an exciting new opportunity for a bright proactive and self-sufficient administrator/secretary to back up a team of four. Your knowledge of graphics and spreadsheets will be utilised to the hilt in the form of presentations, expense reports and flow charts. A flair for figures is important as much of the work will be analytical, however other duties will include arranging travel and looking after the personnel function for the department. Age 22-30. Skills: 50wpm/Microsoft Word for Windows/DTP/Spreadsheets. Maths O'level essential. Please call Claire Ashley on 071 377 8827 for an immediate interview.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

WORKING Call Yourself A Temp?
We won't!

If you're one of our Temps you're one of our employees, and we'll show it to you. As well as the infamous annual party we hold for all our Temps, we paid a substantial bonus to those who worked over 1000 hours for us last year. Nobody has more commitment to their Temps than we do, and nobody has such a brilliant mix of media and Blue-Chip clients. So why are we advertising, and why should you come and Temp with Working Girls? No bland answers, here are some specifics:

- Our Temporary business has doubled in the last year. That is success.
- We have a professional approach to training utilising thorough training programmes
- We brief you properly on each booking – no nasty surprises for you or for us!
- The demand for our Executive Temps is growing. We pay top rates for Secretaries with Shorthand and experience of Apple Mac, Powerpoint, Excel, AmiPro, and naturally Word for Windows.

So if you call yourself a Temp call Celeste NOW on 071 240 0040/6240. She'll look after you – permanently!

Working Girls Ltd, Professional Recruitment
17 Tavistock St, Covent Garden, London WC2E 7PA

URGENT!!

The Summer rush has started two months early and we urgently need you to join our established and loyal team of temps, who enjoy regular, well-paid and interesting assignments in central London.
In return for your flexible attitude and excellent skills, we guarantee an efficient and friendly service, together with the following minimum rates:

Director level PAs £9.00 ph minimum
PAs/Secretaries £8.50 ph minimum

Please call now! Liz, Lara and Natalie West End 071 437 6032. Tina, Victoria and Wendy, City 071 377 9919

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARY

Excellent Salary + Benefits.

We are an American Law firm specialising in international finance and are looking for a secretary with good shorthand and word processing skills (Wordperfect preferred, but will cross-train). We need someone who is organised and committed, cheerful, unflappable and prepared to work overtime as required to meet deadlines. In return, we offer an excellent salary and benefits, including paid overtime.

Please call Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton on 071 614 2200.

PUBLIC CREME

NATIONAL FORUM FOR CORONARY HEART DISEASE PREVENTION

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

The National Forum for Coronary Heart Disease Prevention is an alliance of 35 national organisations with a leading role in reducing the risk from heart disease in the UK.

We now need a highly organised senior administrative secretary to help manage a busy office and provide full secretarial and administrative support to a small team comprising Director, Assistant Director and project staff. This challenging post would suit an energetic, enthusiastic individual with advanced skills in Wordperfect 5.1, excellent communication skills and ability to act on own initiative.

Salary from £14,000 depending on experience.

PART-TIME ASSISTANT SECRETARY

We are also seeking a half-time secretary to assist in the administration and provide secretarial support to the Forum and project staff. You will have excellent Wordperfect 5.1 skills, good organisational abilities, a commitment to efficient team work and excellent communication skills.

Salary from £11,000 full time equivalent, hours negotiable.

BOOK-KEEPING SKILLS ARE AN ADVANTAGE FOR BOTH POSTS.

For a detailed job description and application form contact: Dr Lesley Rogers, National Forum for CHD Prevention, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1H 9TX, (071 383 7638) stating clearly which post you are interested in. Closing date for all applications 6 April. Interviews will be held on 15 April (full-time), and 22 April (half-time). (Registered Charity No. 803286). NO AGENCIES PLEASE.

SECRETARY - 22K Package

Highly successful Investment Bank is seeking a bright, proactive young secretary to work for two charming Directors. They are offering variety, involvement and responsibility in return for your professionalism, hard work and excellent skills. You will be expected to use your own initiative whilst dealing with high profile clients and arranging meetings, travel, diaries and conferences. If you are well presented and feel that you could contribute to the success of this fast-moving, forward thinking organisation please call us today. Tel: 071 377 5500. Fax: 071 377 5599.

CROSS SELECTION RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SENIOR LEGAL SECRETARY
required for the
HEAD OF OUR COMPANY & COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT

Applicants should possess excellent secretarial, communication and administrative skills and have the ability to use initiative, work under pressure and administer our Trainee Recruitment and Continuing Education Schemes. Familiarity with Microsoft Word for Windows is essential.

We can offer a friendly environment, a wide range of benefits and a good starting salary.

Please send CV's in the first instance to:- Lin Jonas, Howard Kennedy, Harcourt House, 19 Cavendish Square, London W1A 2AW.

DESIGN OFFICE

Secretary to work as part of a young dynamic team of designers based in Vauxhall. Fast accurate typing and good telephone manner essential. Experience of Macintosh and Wordperfect 5.1 preferable. Salary d.o.e.

Tel: Lucy Daniel on 071 820 0330

All Box number replies should be addressed to:
BOX No:- .....
C/o The Times Newspapers
P.O. BOX 484,
Virginia Street,
London E1 9DD

PUBLIC CREME

ENB English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR/OFFICE MANAGER
LONDON OFFICE
£16,484-£18,958 pa

This is a challenging post, supporting the Director - Mental Health & Learning Disability Nursing, at a time of rapid change in the work of the Board and in the education and training of Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors.

The role is varied, requiring someone with several years experience of managing others and the ability to lead a team of secretaries. You will be required to develop and monitor office systems and be able to provide confidential Secretarial and administrative support of the highest quality. You will need to be an excellent communicator, confident with both senior management inside and outside the organisation, and be able to maintain a current knowledge of the work of the Director and of the London office. An interest and experience in the specialist areas will be an advantage. Skills of 65 wpm word processing and audio typing are essential. Shorthand skills and knowledge of Word Perfect 5.1 will be an advantage.

In return, the post will offer someone with energy and initiative, the opportunity to develop both personally and professionally. The Board is committed to providing service of the best quality and training and self-development mechanisms are in place to ensure staff are equipped to meet the challenge.

Terms and conditions of service include 20 days annual leave plus one week's office closure over the Christmas/New Year period, a subsidised cafeteria and sports and social club membership, an Occupational Health Service and contributory pension scheme (17% by employer).

The Board has a No Smoking Policy.

If you would like an application package, please contact:-

Personal Assistant English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting. Victory House, 170 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0HA. Telephone: 071 388 3131 ext. 331.

If you would like to discuss the post in advance of your application, please telephone Ms C Thomas, Secretary to the Director on 071-388 3131 ext. 267.

The Closing date for receipt of completed applications is Friday 15 April 1994 and interviews will take place on Friday 29 April 1994.

The ENB is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS
REGENT'S PARK

The College is a membership organisation concerned with standards of care, training, education and examinations in the medical speciality of obstetrics and gynaecology. The College has the following two vacancies:

EXAMINATION ASSISTANT/ SECRETARY circa £12,000

A vacancy has been created by internal promotion for an Examination Assistant in this busy and interesting Department. Good typing, shorthand and word processing skills are essential and knowledge of computers would be an advantage although full training will be given. REF NO: EX1.

MEETINGS SECRETARY - circa £14,000

The College wishes to recruit a second Meetings Secretary to assist with the secretarial and administrative work in organising conferences and courses which are held throughout the UK. The Postgraduate Education Department of the College is responsible for a large number of meetings and so the work is both interesting and varied. The successful candidate will have previous experience of conference organisations, good shorthand and typing skills, the ability to draft correspondence and reports and experience of committee organisation. The ability to work under pressure and critical attention to detail and follow-up is essential. Travel in the British Isles will also be required. The word processing system is Uniplex and knowledge of computers would be an advantage although full training will be given. REF NO: PG1.

Excellent working conditions include flexible working hours, free lunches, pension scheme, interest free season ticket loan and generous leave entitlement.

For details and an application form please telephone Kim Dawson on 071 262 5425 stating the reference number of the post in which you are interested (no agencies please). Registered Charity No: 213280.

CREME DE LA CREME

WORKING WONDERS RECRUITMENT LTD
31 Villiers Street, London WC2N 6ND Tel: 071 930 9080 Fax: 071 839 2412

PUBLICATIONS ASST	Publishers W8	Age:	18-25	Xmas Bonus	£11,000 pa.
ACCOUNTS SECRETARY	Marketing Co EC1	Age:	19-25	STL	£13,500 pa
SHORTHAND SECRETARY	Travel Co W1	Age:	20-24	Discounts	£14,000 pa
ACCOUNT MANAGER	Mgtment Cons SW1	Age:	25-35	Profit Share	£20,000 pa
OPERATIONS CONTROLLER	Mail Order Co NW1	Age:	20-25	STL & PPP	£13,000 pa
COPY TYPIST	Qty Surveyors WC1	Age:	18-35	BUPA & STL	£11,500 pa
PROJECT MANAGER	Clothing Co SW8	Age:	20-29	4 wks hols	£22,000 pa
SENIOR SECRETARY	Chtd Surveyors W1	Age:	20-30	Pension & STL	£16,500 pa
PARTNERS PA	Chtd Accountants SE1	Age:	25-35	Sports Facilities	£17,000 pa
TEMPS TEMPS TEMPS	Wordperfect 5.1	Microsoft Word		Multimate	£Excellent

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 071 481 9994 (Trade)

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX:
071 782 7828

MEDIA SECRETARIES
£9,000 - £18,000

Are you looking for your next step into

ADVERTISING, PUBLISHING, PR, MARKETING, DESIGN OR PROMOTIONS.

As one of London's most sought after Media Consultancies we are always on the look out for

PA'S/TEAM SECRETARIES/RECEPTIONISTS & COLLEGE LEAVERS WITH 50WPM

Christopher Keats Media Recruitment Secretaries

For an initial discussion call one of our Specialist Consultants. Christopher Keats of Covent Garden. Phone 071-379 4164.

PASSIONATE ABOUT THE MED? A JOB WITH CV TRAVEL

Chelsea tour operator seeks self-motivated sales consultants to help sell villa and hotel holidays. Applicants should be able to use their own initiative, have good administration skills as well as being able to type and be prepared to use a computerised reservations system. A good knowledge of the Mediterranean particularly Portugal, Italy, Corfu, Paxos, Southern Spain and Majorca and IATA experience, an advantage and will be reflected in the salary.

Applicants should be numerate and have a good sense of humour and be able to cope in pressurised situations.

CV TRAVEL

Please send CV to Lulu Witherington, CV Travel, 43 Cadogan Street, London SW3 2PR

LEGAL OPPORTUNITIES

Competitive Salary and Benefits Package

We are a medium sized firm of Solicitors offering excellent career opportunities for exerienced professional Legal staff. We are currently recruiting the following key positions:-

Professional Indemnity Litigation Secretary - Solicitor level.
Personal Injury Secretary - Solicitor level.
Floating Secretary - All levels.
P/t Clerical Assistant - To work in the Library (6 mths maternity cover).

If you are enthusiastic, organised and flexible (Wordperfect 5.1 experience an advantage) please submit your written application to:-

The Personnel Manager, Reynolds Porter Chamberlain, Chichester House, 278/282 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HA
(strictly no agencies).

Part-time Receptionists

Reputable Investment Bank, nr City
c£14,000 package

This blue chip client, a leading international corporation will extend a warm welcome to you if you're an immaculately presented, well-spoken front line professional who takes her/his job seriously. Whatever your hours, you'll be responsible for greeting VIP visitors, co-ordinating all reception services, administration & assisting with VDU input. Previous front desk experience & an excellent phone manner could help secure you one of these vacancies all of which offer mortgage subsidy & BUPA as part of the excellent package on offer. Hrs: 7am-1pm or 1pm-6.30pm.

Call CLARE HARTWELL, 071 538 1155

Office Angels

SHORTHAND, SHORTHAND, SHORTHAND

SW1, SW3, SW6, £16-19,000

Where are you? You can't all have lost your outlines! If you have at least 90wpm shorthand, we have 3 fascinating career opportunities in travel, design, and property for 3 equally special secretaries with 'A' levels, excellent written English, poise and charm. Age 23-35.

PLEASE CALL JO FOR MORE INFO

JIGSAW

WEEKEND SECRETARY

Excellent Salary + Benefits.

We are an American Law firm specialising in international finance and are looking for a secretary to work weekends with good shorthand and word processing skills (Wordperfect preferred, but will cross-train). We need someone who is organised and committed, cheerful, unflappable and prepared to work overtime as required to meet deadlines. In return, we offer an excellent salary and benefits, including paid overtime.

Please call Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton on 071 614 2200.

SECRETARIAL OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN INVESTMENT BANKING

EXCELLENT BANKING BENEFITS

GOLDMAN SACHS, a leader in the investment banking and securities industry, has several opportunities within its Investment Banking Division for outgoing, professional secretaries.

Working in a dynamic team environment requires excellent administration and communication skills together with good judgement, a strong sense of commitment and flexibility. Constant pressure to meet deadlines means that you must have the energy and drive to succeed and the desire to be continually challenged.

If you are educated to "A" level or degree standard, preferably fluent in one European language or more, possess excellent technical skills including 60 wpm typing and have a thorough knowledge of Word for Windows and spreadsheets, then please send your CV with a covering letter, quoting reference CF20, to:

Denise Simmons
Goldman Sachs International
133 Fleet Street
London EC4A 2BB

Goldman Sachs

PA to HR Director
£20,000 + banking benefits

GRADUATE *appointments*

A leading International City-based Investment and Securities firm is looking for a highly professional and immaculately presented PA to work alongside the Executive Director of the Human Resources Department.

The position will appeal to individuals who enjoy using their organisation ability, who exude confidence and who are used to applying their own initiative.

In addition to the provision of a first class service to the Director, the successful applicant will become involved in aspects of office management and the execution of ad hoc projects within the department.

The secretarial skills required are 100/60 wpm. Word for Windows and experience of Excel are preferred.

Previous personnel experience is not a pre-requisite but a background in banking would be advantageous.

Telephone 071-379 0333

For a detailed discussion, contact Sharon Lamb on 071 379 0333.

SECRETARIAL TEMPS

Pertemps City Network

We are currently looking to expand our workforce due to the continued increase in our business. Our clients are major blue chip City based organisations such as Chase Manhattan Bank (to whom we are sole suppliers of temporary staff). We would like to hear from you if you feel you could become part of our success story. We also have a number of permanent vacancies for senior PA's with salaries up to £22,000.

Please contact Marion Scanlon or Deborah Smith on 071 621 1304.

PLANTATION HOUSE
23 ROOD LANE, LONDON EC3M 3DX
FAX NO: 071 626 6671

CITYWORD

6 Long Lane London EC1A 9HA

Shorthand Banking Typing Legal

We're Loaded...

...with high-quality, well-paid, temporary and permanent City jobs. We are looking for people with the right attitude, skills and personal presentation to fill them.

For a limited period and at our discretion we are providing free formal classroom training, on the latest office software products, to people who meet our criteria.

So if you have a solid secretarial background, a professional attitude to your work and a real desire to get ahead, call - **Angie Crouch on**

071-600 8391

SUSAN HAMILTON GROUP

93 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7RB Tel: 071 235 7114 (24hrs) Fax: 071 823 1064

SECRETARY WITH LANGUAGES EC3 - c.£16,000
AND RECEPTIONIST/TYPIST EC3 - c.£14,000.

Secretary - Looking for more than just a secretarial post? A good level of education (A level pref) plus a European language, flair typing & WP skills essential plus a team spirited approach to your work. Good career prospects. Also.....

Receptionist - Professional team spirited receptionist with 45 wpm & WP skills, excellent presentation & speech plus the ability to work under pressure essential.

Call Helen or Maureen on 071-235 7114.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

THE TIMES

La Crème de la Crème also appears in the Appointments Supplement on Thursdays.

For further information please call the Crème team on 071 481 9994 or fax on 071 782 7828.

DON'T MISS IT!

SECRETARY / RESEARCH ASSISTANT
£18,500

Provide support and assistance to the Head of the Business Development Unit, collate information for projects, assist with recruitment and use your excellent DTP skills to produce presentations. 'A' level/ equiv, good sec qual and WordPerfect for Windows and Freelance required. Beautiful offices. Benefits incl. 5 wks hol, subs rest and profit share. (PRS) Agy.

Call 071 287 0220 or fax your CV on 071 287 1060

TV PRODUCTION

26+ = £25,000
20-26 = up to £20,000

Our client, a high profile, dynamic, production company, requires an outstanding PA to work for an extremely bright, switched-on, motivated character who will require total organisation. If you can remain calm when all about you obviously aren't, enjoy working on your own initiative and have fairly determined and outgoing personality, please call 071 726 8491.

Angela Mortimer

SECRETARIES

This prestigious hotel now has openings for excellent Secretaries in various departments.

All positions will require minimum typing speeds of 60 wpm and some will require shorthand and audio skills. Previous hotel experience is preferred.

Please telephone the Personnel Department on 071-636 1000 for further information.

THE LANGHAM HILTON LONDON

TRAVEL SECRETARY

Busy Chelsea tour operator need competent secretary with excellent audio & Microsoft Word 4 Windows skills to work for M.D. & Sales Team. Applicants must be adaptable, level headed, used to working under pressure & well organised. 65 wpm, salary according to experience, age 24+, non-smoker.

Apply in writing to: Richard Cookson, CV Travel, 43 Cadogan Street, London SW3 2PR



Corporate Finance Secretary – City

£19,000 + Excellent Benefits

As part of a team of 4, you'll have a proven secretarial background with terrific skills underpinned by dedication, strength of character & initiative. You'll be working for 2 senior executives & 2 others who are all 'on the ball' ambitious & demanding at times but with your solid experience of MS Word for Windows, audio typing at 60+ wpm & ability to get on with the job you'll be a shining success. Overtime will be involved. We have several other positions available in corporate finance at varying levels.

Call LORRAINE PHAIR or ANNA ROSE on 071-606 0011

Office Angels

First Job
Start Now!

College leavers - now is your chance to use all your secretarial skills and skip up the career ladder. With salaries between £10,000-13,000, we have a variety of jobs in a number of exciting companies. If you are enthusiastic, willing and looking for your first permanent position, please call Harriet on 071 434 4512.

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

BANKING & LEGAL LA CREME

LEGAL Secretaries £16-£20K We are urgently looking for experienced legal secretaries to fill over 30 jobs in the City and West End. Please call 071 836 0041 Status Legal Agy

SOUTH KENSINGTON c£14K

Secretary-for Partner of small Property & Commercial Legal Practice. Humour, intelligence, speed, accuracy & a good knowledge of Wordperfect 5.1 more important than Legal experience.

Send CV to Phillippa Hicks, 2 Cromwell Place, London. SW7 2JE. Fax: 071-225 0802

NON-SECRETARIAL

SALES Support Rapidly growing computer software company requires two bright, well organised people (pref graduates) for pre and post sales support. £14K-£20K Clapham based. 081 945 8855 any time

MONEY! MONEY! MONEY! Everyone needs money! Although I'm a busy mother, my business has taken off & I am now earning more than my husband! Tel: 0282 735 109

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT

Urgently required by busy Chelsea based Relocation Company to help run growing Management portfolio. We are looking for someone who is efficient, can type, car driver, good with people, and has experience dealing with tenancy agreements. Salary c£15,000 inc.

Tel: 081-644 2856 for Job Description.

RUCK

EXPERIENCED NEGOTIATOR

Required for Letting Dept of busy South Ken Agents. Must be self-motivated, cheerful, enthusiastic, car owner and have knowledge of Kensington and Chelsea area's.

Apply with C.V. in confidence to:- 13 Old Brompton Road, London. SW7 3HZ.

071 581 1741

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

FRENCH bil sec for mkting mgr within fashion ind. 2 yrs exp req with fluent French £14,500 + bens. The Language Specialists. Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

GERMAN minor. English major? confident, outgoing billing PA/ Sec. who adores being on the go rather than always behind a desk, to work for Exec Director & others in Cap Markets Div. c£19K+ pkge. Multilingual Services rec cons 071 836 3794

HAMPSHIRE: Fluent French or Spanish plus sec skills are needed for varied role in marketing-orientated field. Lots of admin and good prospects. c£14K. Multilingual Services rec cons 071 836 3794.

ITALIAN £18,000 PA to two Executive Directors. Long hours and hectic environment, but excellent earning potential. Good skills & fluent Italian ess. High profile co. EEA Bilingual 071 379 0344.

ITALIAN bil sec Exp MT for MD of leisure co 23-35yrs. Imm start £15K. Language Specialists. Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

ITALIAN spkg sec, several opps for 2nd/3rd lnguage, int'l co, ed sec skills ess. To £15K. Link Language Appts 071 408 2150

LANGUAGE Sec £16,000. International company needs a team spirited secretary with knowledge of German, French or Italian to assist a busy Director. 50 wpm WP essential. Age 25-35. Please telephone 071 499 8070 Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

PA £18,000 International oil company needs a PA with fluent Spanish or Russian to assist a busy Vice President who travels extensively and needs a solid footholder. 60 wpm WP essential Age 28-45. Please telephone 071 499 8070 Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

TRILINGUAL Export Sec/Admin with perfect ENGLISH, fluent FRENCH and GERMAN. SW London To £16K. Multilingual Service rec cons 071 836 3794

SUPER SECRETARIES

£16,000 nego + 23 days hols + free a'noch lunch when you work for this small but really friendly Property Investment Co in the heart of the West End. Looking after 2 partners you will be typing reports using audio, organising marketing meetings and travel schedules. Ideal for young sec aged 22-29 with 2-3 yrs exp. Skills: 80 wpm s/h useful, 60 wpm typing. Pls call Katy on 071 457 6032 Hobstones Rec Cons.

A PA/Secretary £17.500+ bs Finance/PR Director of U.K. Retail Group NW London. WP/Spreadsheet exp Age 25-34 081 209 1898 Fame Agy.

ASSISTANT required for Team of Advertising Executives working on leading international business magazine. Aside from usual secretarial duties, will organise roadshows & foreign travel. Raise on an international basis, and be the main point of contact for Clients. Ad Agencies and the public. WordPerfect and previous sec exp essential. Pref age early/mid 20's. £14,500. bonus plus £1000 plus benefits. Call Sue Donnelly (Agy) 081 342 9988.

EXPERIENCED Secretary/ Administrator required for Kensington antiques dealer. Must have S/H 'n'p skills. Please reply to Box No 6855

MAYFAIR Lawyer seeks bright PA Proper! WP 5.1 A retained day @ £18,000* Legal People Agy 081 348 9108 until 9pm

SECRETARIES

This prestigious hotel now has openings for excellent Secretaries in various departments.

All positions will require minimum typing speeds of 60 wpm and some will require shorthand and audio skills. Previous hotel experience is preferred.

Please telephone the Personnel Department on 071-636 1000 for further information.

THE LANGHAM HILTON LONDON

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

FRENCH bil sec for mkting mgr within fashion ind. 2 yrs exp req with fluent French £14,500 + bens. The Language Specialists. Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

GERMAN minor. English major? confident, outgoing billing PA/ Sec. who adores being on the go rather than always behind a desk, to work for Exec Director & others in Cap Markets Div. c£19K+ pkge. Multilingual Services rec cons 071 836 3794

HAMPSHIRE: Fluent French or Spanish plus sec skills are needed for varied role in marketing-orientated field. Lots of admin and good prospects. c£14K. Multilingual Services rec cons 071 836 3794.

ITALIAN £18,000 PA to two Executive Directors. Long hours and hectic environment, but excellent earning potential. Good skills & fluent Italian ess. High profile co. EEA Bilingual 071 379 0344.

ITALIAN bil sec Exp MT for MD of leisure co 23-35yrs. Imm start £15K. Language Specialists. Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

ITALIAN spkg sec, several opps for 2nd/3rd lnguage, int'l co, ed sec skills ess. To £15K. Link Language Appts 071 408 2150

LANGUAGE Sec £16,000. International company needs a team spirited secretary with knowledge of German, French or Italian to assist a busy Director. 50 wpm WP essential. Age 25-35. Please telephone 071 499 8070 Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

PA £18,000 International oil company needs a PA with fluent Spanish or Russian to assist a busy Vice President who travels extensively and needs a solid footholder. 60 wpm WP essential Age 28-45. Please telephone 071 499 8070 Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

TRILINGUAL Export Sec/Admin with perfect ENGLISH, fluent FRENCH and GERMAN. SW London To £16K. Multilingual Service rec cons 071 836 3794

SUPER SECRETARIES

£16,000 nego + 23 days hols + free a'noch lunch when you work for this small but really friendly Property Investment Co in the heart of the West End. Looking after 2 partners you will be typing reports using audio, organising marketing meetings and travel schedules. Ideal for young sec aged 22-29 with 2-3 yrs exp. Skills: 80 wpm s/h useful, 60 wpm typing. Pls call Katy on 071 457 6032 Hobstones Rec Cons.

A PA/Secretary £17.500+ bs Finance/PR Director of U.K. Retail Group NW London. WP/Spreadsheet exp Age 25-34 081 209 1898 Fame Agy.

ASSISTANT required for Team of Advertising Executives working on leading international business magazine. Aside from usual secretarial duties, will organise roadshows & foreign travel. Raise on an international basis, and be the main point of contact for Clients. Ad Agencies and the public. WordPerfect and previous sec exp essential. Pref age early/mid 20's. £14,500. bonus plus £1000 plus benefits. Call Sue Donnelly (Agy) 081 342 9988.

EXPERIENCED Secretary/ Administrator required for Kensington antiques dealer. Must have S/H 'n'p skills. Please reply to Box No 6855

MAYFAIR Lawyer seeks bright PA Proper! WP 5.1 A retained day @ £18,000* Legal People Agy 081 348 9108 until 9pm

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

LANGUAGE MATTERS

FRENCH BANKING SEC £17,000 + excel bens
French billing sec for busy team of Execs in intl bank. Exp MT, good PC skills & enthusiasm est. 21+. 6 months' exp.

ITALIAN EXEC PA £22,000 + bank bens
CE of intl city co seeks exec PA with fluent French and excl sec skills (inc 50 wpm for verbal PA role. Full balance duties with HO in Italy. 28+. Superb opp.

FRENCH SNR SEC £18,000 + perks
Snr Sec with fluent French (Eng MT) for Dir of intl services co. Dir travels extensively, so ability to hold the fort imperative. 28+.

GERMAN MATERNITY COVER To £20,000 pro rata
Snr German sph sec sought for long-term temp (prob perm) posn with intl city co's. 5h pwd, bonus stats. Snr level finance.

Tel: 071 930 1811. Fax 071 925 0056
Carrara House, 20 Embankment Pl, London, WC2N 6NN

SENIOR SECRETARY MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

Bilingual (English/French) director level secretary required for busy team in West End consultancy. You will need to demonstrate excellent skills, including good knowledge of applicant, ability to work under pressure, sometimes for long hours, and be energetic, enthusiastic, flexible, organised and well-presented. Shorthand an advantage. We offer an exciting and challenging role in this young, friendly and dynamic office. £18,000 + overtime + benefits.

Please Reply to Box No 6694
1 Virginia Street, London E1 9DD

SUPER SECRETARIES

CONVERSATIONAL French, a bright proactive personality & 2-5 years' secretarial experience are the basic needs for a lively, quite demanding job with major finance house. £14-c£17K + perks. Multilingual Services rec cons 071 836 3794

DANISH/NORWEGIAN sec, young, fast moving environment, age to 30, to £13K Link Language Appts 071 408 2150

DUTCH and/or German speaking secretaries urgently required by leading investment Bank. You will need to have an impeccable background, good skills and be very flexible. Salaries range from 16-19k plus fantastic benefits and a superb working environment. Please call Cross Selection (rec cons) Tel: 071 377 5500 Fax: 071 377 5899.

FRENCH speaking secretary required for London office of International law firm. Good typing (50 wpm) in French & English needed. c£19,000. 071 405 6646 Law Choice Rec Cons

FRENCH Speaking Legal Sec urg req (23-35) by young dynamic law firm. Legal exp and Eng M/Shorthand ess. 081 348 9108 until 9 pm. Legal People Agy

FRENCH sec arranging conf and seminars. Eng MT, some travel involved £15,000 + bonus + bens. The Language Specialists. Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

SUPER SECRETARIES

AUDIO Secretary required by this secure well established org based close to Oxford Circus. Utilise your fast typing speeds along with your WP knowledge as this Co is investing in the latest WP technology. Salary £14,000 (PRS) agy call 071 287 0220 for more details or fax your CV on 071 287 1060.

BANKING Secretary for Director (early 20's) - for young dynamic banker (30) - salary £16,000 + performance bonus & banking package - requires a self-motivated professional secretary to organise his busy schedule. Willing to be completely involved in this hectic & exhilarating environment, enjoy working under immense pressure & to strict deadlines. Responsibility for the preparation of client presentations, complicated travel arrangements & general secretarial duties. Must be able to prioritise your own work load & work unsupervised. This challenging role will put your secretarial skills to the ultimate test. Ideally a min of 1 years' banking experience. Enthusiasm & willingness to give your all & be totally committed to this challenge for an extremely demanding Director. If interested, please fax or mail your CV to Deborah Lock, quoting ref: Banking Specialist. MMP Ltd at 211 Piccadilly W1V 9LD. Confidential Fax 0711 895 1378 (Rec Cons)

£19,500 + bonus + BUPA. International Co with prestigious W1 offices need a PA with good shorthand & experience (80/60) to work at Director level. A true PA role with an interesting & varied workload dealing with a wide selection of clients. Age 25-35. Reynds Raphael Rec 071 287 2090.

CAREER-MINDED WP6.1 specialist required for busy team in Business Centre at W1 5-Star French hotel (open 8am-8pm M-F). Must have exc typing 80+, lots of initiative, computer literacy, flair for admin. Other programs an adv. Immed start avail. Exc salary for non-smoker, 30-46 yrs. Living in Inner/Central London. Call Miss Pike on 071 434 4426 (no agencies).

CONFERENCE and travel coordinator required for a leading stockbroking firm in EC2. Working on the busy trading floor for the research and sales dept. you will be organising itineraries, researching accommodation and co-ordinating seminars. If you are a team player, experienced in travel planning with Word for Windows (5.0/open) and are immediately available, then call Susannah Barker 071 577 9919 Hobstones Recruitment Consultants.

GRAPHICS SEC Freelance or similar graphics packages & love producing presentational work to deadlines? City firm. £15K-£18K nse. 071 377 6777 Middleton Jeffers Rec Cons

HEADHUNTERS! Salary to £20,000 We are looking for two superb senior secretaries/PA's for two of the world's leading executive search companies. These fascinating jobs demand poise, intelligence and an excellent telephone manner as you will be liaising at the most senior levels. A financial background would be advantageous for one of the positions. Age 28-45. Skills - 65 typing/stable/wp. Please call Joanna Batsiopoulos on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

HIGH calibre PAs & secretaries seeking interesting, taxing job satisfaction required for central London clients. Salaries will match your high standard skills, experience, education. Please call or send CV to Norma Bailey, Angel International Recruitment, 50 Fleet Street, EC4Y 1BE. 071 583 1661.

IS Russian your 2nd language? Prof Office Manager/PA req to assist the MD of Brent petroleum co. Excell admin, WP 6.0, Lotus 1-2-3 and driving exp req. Responsibility, client liaison & involvement assured. c£16K. Robert 071 407 0313. Fax: 071 407 0117 Securicor Agy.

£18,500K + Bens. Experienced PA to assist dynamic associate with all admin. Organise travel itineraries, co-ordinate hectic diaries, prepare proposals & manage expenses. Fast WP skills & good secretarial exp. Age 25-35. Bonus's, gym, mort. sub. & lots more! Reynds Raphael Rec 071 287 2090.

25k plus banking benefits. Executive PA required for M.D. A level+essential, business studies degree an advantage. Previous experience at this level in banking or finance please. Preferred age 28-36. If you are interested in the above please fax your CV to Cross Selection (rec cons) 071 377 5599

NORTH YORKSHIRE PA to MD. A bright, confident Personal Assistant with sound organisational and administrative skills is required to assist the busy M.D of a small but rapidly expanding international Trading business. Candidates must be experienced, highly computer literate (WP 5.1), be able to audio type 55 WPM, proactive and capable of working on own initiative. If you would like to further your career in an exciting and interesting business we are ready to offer an excellent package for the right candidate. The location is a picturesque North Yorkshire town with excellent connections to shops, entertainment and sports facilities. Call Angela Hodgson 0642 711 468.

OFFICE Manager/PA £20,000 neg. Career role! 100% committed, exc pres + 60wpm WP for own use. W4 Windows an adv. Age 26-35. Tons of client contact. Next Agy 071 287 2664.

PA to £20,000. Successful jewellery company needs an experienced PA with fluent German to assist their MD in an exciting and challenging role. 50 wpm WP essential. Age 26-35 Please telephone 071 499 8070 Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants

ROYAL Household - This Private Secretary working in central London residence requires quick thinking courteous secretary (Aged 22-30) to help run her busy office. You will keep the diary, weekly and monthly schedules, greet guests, have extensive phone work and fact finding projects. Essential qualities: common sense and efficiency Skills: 80 wpm s/h, 55 wpm typing/Wordperfect 5.1. Hrs 9.30-5.00pm. Salary £12,500 + freq pkg. Pls call Katy on 071 457 6032. Hobs Rec Cons.

SECRETARY to work as part of a team in small Chelsea Architects Office. You will be our face to the outside world so must be bright, efficient, presentable & reliable. Responsibilities include Wordprocessing, General Administration & ability to organise office. Salary negotiable. Please fax CV: 071-352 4341 or Tel: 071-352 1002

SOCIAL Research? 25+ Sec with S/H for projects Director £17,000++. Fascinating world. Covent Garden Bureau 071 495 8622

SUPER SECRETARIES

SECRETARY - Account Manager. Interesting, varied and hectic job in a company which is the UK and European representative for different travel-related products from abroad. We are looking for a career-orientated person who flourishes in a busy and pressured atmosphere. Applicants must have excellent skills in computers including word processing, databases and use of networks. A knowledge of Australia is desired, language would be useful. Please send CV attention: Karen Epperson, Axis Sales & Marketing Ltd, 42la Finchley Road, London NW3 6HJ. Telephone: 071 431 4045. Fax: 071 431 7920.

TELEVISION c£14-£18K+. Calm unflappable PA to assist dynamic Director of this successful Pan European network. Good sec. exp. ess. & ideally a working knowledge of Europe. Fluency in a 2nd European Lang (Italian, German or French). Terrific role for a polished & accomplished PA with fast WP skills (55+). Age 25-28 Reynds Raphael Rec 071 287 2090.

TRADING Floor 15K plus banking benefits. Top investment Bank seeks a switched-on sales co-ordinator. This is an organisational role and flexibility is vital. The job is on admin and dealing with people but some secretarial training or experience & good typing is essential. Any European languages would be a tremendous advantage. So if you are high on intelligence & ambition, very well presented and enjoy a fast-moving environment, call Marion Hamilton at Cross Selection (rec cons) for more details. Tel: 071 377 5500 Fax: 071 377 5899.

URGENTLY Required Temporary & Permanent secretarial staff with excellent keyboard & shorthand if possible, for City based clients. Please contact Marc Blake/ Gasmila Sarkar, Ecco Employment 071 920 0966. Agy.

PART TIME VACANCIES

VERY intelligent, alive individual of very good appearance for busy SW1 estate agents to help internationals buy and rent houses. First hours 12 p.m. Please call 071 821 0785

SUPER SECRETARIES

TRADING Floor 15K plus banking benefits. Top investment Bank seeks a switched-on sales co-ordinator. This is an organisational role and flexibility is vital. The job is on admin and dealing with people but some secretarial training or experience & good typing is essential. Any European languages would be a tremendous advantage. So if you are high on intelligence & ambition, very well presented and enjoy a fast-moving environment, call Marion Hamilton at Cross Selection (rec cons) for more details. Tel: 071 377 5500 Fax: 071 377 5899.

URGENTLY Required Temporary & Permanent secretarial staff with excellent keyboard & shorthand if possible, for City based clients. Please contact Marc Blake/ Gasmila Sarkar, Ecco Employment 071 920 0966. Agy.

PART TIME VACANCIES

VERY intelligent, alive individual of very good appearance for busy SW1 estate agents to help internationals buy and rent houses. First hours 12 p.m. Please call 071 821 0785

PART-TIME P.A./SECRETARY

Required for Managing Director of prestigious nightclub in Kings Road. At least 3 years secretarial experience, good knowledge of Word for Windows and excellent English essential. Three days per week including Monday and Friday 10.00 am to 6.00 pm.

Please call Pippa Hume on 071-352 1091.

RECEPTION SELECTION

FILM prod co req well pres & spoken rec, confidence to deal with high profile people ess £11K. The Language Specialists. Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

RECEPTIONIST/Administrator. £12,000. Front reception. Exceptionally smart and well spoken. Dynamic Co. Typing on computer (80 wpm). Flexible and mature attitude. Age 20-28. Exp ess. 071 287 3664. Next Employment.

FRENCH speaking bright person to work as part of 3 busy team. Eng MT, well spoken and presented, excl prospects. £12,500 + bonus + 5 wks hols. The Language Specialists. Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

RECEPTIONIST
£17K + pd o/time

A polished professional City receptionist reqd for this large prestigious international co. Interpersonal skills for extensive front desk client liaison in luxurious surroundings. Excel bens. 23-40 yrs.

Val Wade Rec Cons
071-437 3793

INTERNATIONAL HQ - New Position - £19,500 (boosted to £22,000 with OT) - primarily greeting & organising a constant stream of international figures & names in the world of investment, International Banking, Property & Big Business, where confidentiality, sophistication & confidence are essential, as is impeccable presentation, diction & manner. You will be sure of your own abilities, have the experience to cope with the unexpected, & know how to handle demanding people. Aged in your 20's or early 30's you will want to make a career move & expect exceptional financial demands. Contact Jacqui in confidence on 071 917 9908 or fax your CV 071 895 1378 Reception Elite reception consultants

MESSAGE Desk c£16,750 + bens. International organisation need a well spoken & polished Message Desk/Telephonist. Challenging & unusual role for someone with excellent switchboard & communication skills. 2nd European lang. an advantage. Shift hours. Age 24-60. Lots of bens. inc mort. sub., bonus, gym & BUPA. Reynds Raphael Rec 071 287 2090

TEMPTING TIMES

SMITH Mat. Cover. £17,000 + bens. WP prop. 60 pwpm 50/60 + good pres ess WP & Windows + Excel Prf. Top SW1 Invest. ex Age 25-35 Next Agy 071 287 3664.

FIRST CREME

JUNIOR Secretary/Management Assistant for busy Estate Agents office. SW11. Accurate typing/WP skills. Good basic and plus commission after training. Call Rathman Booth Tel: 071 924 1469.

COLLEGE TO CAREER

£12,000 Are you looking for your first job? Will you be free for work in the next 6-8 weeks? If so we have lots of opportunities in film, TV, PR, Advertising and the challenging world of banking. Give us a call now! 071 726 8491. Angela Mortimer (rec cons) 071 726 8491.

ADMINISTRATION

STOCKBROKING
£18K ++

Admin. assistant (25+) required to run office for 2 charming brokers in top City company. Andersons (Rec Cons) 081 763 9393.

PART TIME VACANCIES

PART-TIME Senior Typists. WP5.1 and DTP. Must have extensive exp of WP5.1 (DOS), min 80wpm, good editing and presentation skills. c£8 per hour Day/Eve/weekends. Can work from home, must live inner/Central London or have modem. Call Miss Pike on 071 434 4426 (no agencies).

VERY intelligent, alive individual of very good appearance for busy SW1 estate agents to help internationals buy and rent houses. First hours 12 p.m. Please call 071 821 0785

PART-TIME P.A./SECRETARY

Required for Managing Director of prestigious nightclub in Kings Road. At least 3 years secretarial experience, good knowledge of Word for Windows and excellent English essential. Three days per week including Monday and Friday 10.00 am to 6.00 pm.

Please call Pippa Hume on 071-352 1091.

RECEPTION SELECTION

FILM prod co req well pres & spoken rec, confidence to deal with high profile people ess £11K. The Language Specialists. Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

RECEPTIONIST/Administrator. £12,000. Front reception. Exceptionally smart and well spoken. Dynamic Co. Typing on computer (80 wpm). Flexible and mature attitude. Age 20-28. Exp ess. 071 287 3664. Next Employment.

FRENCH speaking bright person to work as part of 3 busy team. Eng MT, well spoken and presented, excl prospects. £12,500 + bonus + 5 wks hols. The Language Specialists. Morrow Agy 071 499 3939

RECEPTIONIST
£17K + pd o/time

A polished professional City receptionist reqd for this large prestigious international co. Interpersonal skills for extensive front desk client liaison in luxurious surroundings. Excel bens. 23-40 yrs.

Val Wade Rec Cons
071-437 3793

INTERNATIONAL HQ - New Position - £19,500 (boosted to £22,000 with OT) - primarily greeting & organising a constant stream of international figures & names in the world of investment, International Banking, Property & Big Business, where confidentiality, sophistication & confidence are essential, as is impeccable presentation, diction & manner. You will be sure of your own abilities, have the experience to cope with the unexpected, & know how to handle demanding people. Aged in your 20's or early 30's you will want to make a career move & expect exceptional financial demands. Contact Jacqui in confidence on 071 917 9908 or fax your CV 071 895 1378 Reception Elite reception consultants

MESSAGE Desk c£16,750 + bens. International organisation need a well spoken & polished Message Desk/Telephonist. Challenging & unusual role for someone with excellent switchboard & communication skills. 2nd European lang. an advantage. Shift hours. Age 24-60. Lots of bens. inc mort. sub., bonus, gym & BUPA. Reynds Raphael Rec 071 287 2090

LOVE THE TELEHONE?

Receptionist needed to filter all calls in our busy Chelsea office of 14. Excellent telephone manner essential plus clear handwriting & patience. Must be able to cope with 10 lines on Panasonic consul, be able to type to act as back-up for secretary & look after reception. Salary according to experience.

Apply by phone to Lulu Witherington 071-581 0851

RECEPTIONIST
£14,000 P.A.

City based Financial Services Group require well spoken and presented Receptionist.

Send CV to Jenny Slater, CAL Futures Limited, 162 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4BS.

BEST IN THE BUSINESS?

We need two friendly, efficient, smart Receptionists for fast moving Fulham based Admin Centre. High profile company. Early/mid 20's. c.£13,000 pa + bonus.

IMAGE IS ALL!

For the Receptionist at this leading West End Doctors practice. You will need poise, charm and grooming to make sure life runs smoothly for patients and staff. Mid - late 20's. c.£14,000 pa.

JOYCE GUINESS PARTNERSHIP 071 589 8807

RECEPTIONIST

For Fine Art Publishers, established in 1880, at prestigious Chelsea Head Office. Age 25-60. Smart appearance with good telephone manner. Qualifications to include Maths & English GCE (or equivalent) Basic word processing skills. Non smoker.

Hours: 8.15 am - 5.15 pm. Salary £12,000 pa.

Applications by telephone to Sarah Hughes on 071 352 3551.

ARCHITECTS OFFICE

requires somebody for reception and administration work for at least 6 months. Would suit pre-university student.

Please send CV's to Tsalis at Mosley & Frankl Ltd, 47 Chelsea Wharf, Lots Road, London SW10 0QJ.

TOP RATES FOR TEMPS

Plus holiday bonus and paid bank holidays. We urgently need PA's, secretaries and receptionists for the exciting world of:

Film, Video & Design
Advertising and PR

The Packages our clients require are:
* Word for Windows
* Wordperfect 5.1
* Wordperfect for Windows
* Excel/Lotus 123
* Harvard Graphics

Contact Emma on 071 499 8070

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SPRING TEMPS to £10 per hour

Beavers is buzzing with new long and short-term bookings! If you thrive on challenge, take pride in your work and are a truly professional WP/DTP secretary call us now!

Holly or Lara
071 631 4916

Telephonist/Receptionists also in demand

BEAVERS LTD REC CONS

European Law Report

Luxembourg

Prohibition on import of EC lottery materials is justifiable

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Gerhart Schindler and Another

Case C-275/92

Before O. Due, President and Judges G. F. Mancini, J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, M. Díez de Velasco, C. N. Kakouris, F. A. Schockweiler, G. C. Rodríguez Iglesias, F. Grévisse, M. Zuleeg, P. J. G. Kapteyn and J. L. Murray

Advocate General C. Gulmann

(Opinion December 16, 1993)

[Judgment March 24]

Lottery activities were "services" within the meaning of article 60 of the EEC Treaty. However, a prohibition on the importation of materials relating to a lottery organised in another member state could not be regarded as a measure involving an unjustified interference with the freedom to provide services.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held in replying to questions referred to it by the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling under article 177 of the EEC Treaty on the interpretation of articles 30, 36, 56 and 59 of the Treaty.

Gerhart and Jorg Schindler were independent agents of the *Süddeutsche Klassenlotterie* ("SKL"), a public body responsible for organising what were known as "Class" lotteries on behalf of four *Länder* of the Federal Republic of Germany. As such agents, they promoted SKL lotteries and sold tickets for those lotteries.

The Schindlers dispatched envelopes from The Netherlands to United Kingdom nationals. Each envelope contained a letter inviting the addressee to participate in the eighty-seventh issue of the SKL, applications forms for participating in that lottery and a pre-printed reply envelope.

The envelopes were intercepted and confiscated by the Customs and Excise at Dover postal depot on the ground that they had been imported in breach of section 1(ii) of the Revenue Act 1898 in conjunction with section 2 of the Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976, before their amendment by the National Lottery etc. Act 1993.

According to the order for reference, the eighty-seventh issue of the SKL was prohibited by virtue of those provisions.

In proceedings brought by the Commissioners for condemnations of the items seized, the Schindlers, defendants in the main proceedings, argued before the High Court of Justice that section 1(ii) of the 1898 Act and section 2 of the 1976 Act were incompatible with article 30, or in the alternative article 59, of the Treaty since they prohibited the importation into a member state of tickets, letters and application forms relating to a lottery lawfully conducted in another member state.

Considering that resolution of that dispute required an interpretation of Community law, the High Court stayed the proceedings and referred six questions to the European Court.

In its judgment the European Court of Justice held as follows:

First and fourth questions

The first and fourth questions were put by the national court to ascertain whether the importation of lottery advertisements and tickets into a member state with a view to the participation by residents of that state in a lottery operated in another member state constituted an importation of goods and fell under article 30 or whether such an activity amounted to a provision of services which as such came within the scope of article 59.

Since some governments had argued that lotteries were not "economic activities" within the meaning of the Treaty, it had to be made clear that the importation of goods or the provision of services for remuneration were to be regarded as "economic activities" within the meaning of the Treaty. That being so, it was sufficient to consider whether lotteries fell within the scope of one or other of the articles of the Treaty referred to in the order for reference.

The national court had asked whether lotteries fell, at least in part, within the ambit of article 30 to the extent that they involved the large scale sending and distribution, in this case in another member state, of material objects such as letters, promotional leaflets or lottery tickets.

The activity pursued by the defendants in the main proceedings appeared admittedly, to be limited to sending advertisements and applications forms, and possibly tickets, on behalf of a lottery operator, SKL.

However, those activities were only specific steps in the organization or operation of a lottery and could not under the Treaty, be considered independently of the lottery to which they related. The importation and distribution of objects were not ends in themselves. Their sole purpose was to enable residents of the member states where those objects were imported and distributed to participate in the lottery.

The point relied on by the Schindlers, that on the facts of the main proceedings agents of the SKL sent material objects into Great Britain in order to advertise the lottery and sell tickets therein, and that material objects which have been manufactured were goods within the meaning of the Court's case-law, was not sufficient to reduce their activity to one of exportation or importation.

Lottery activities were thus not activities relating to "goods", falling, as such, under article 30. They were, however, to be regarded as "services" within the meaning of article 60.

The services at issue were those provided by the operator of the lottery to enable purchasers of tickets to participate in a game of chance with the hope of winning, by arranging for that purpose for the stakes to be collected, the draws to be organised and the prizes or winnings to be ascertained and paid out.

Those services were normally provided for remuneration constituted by the price of the lottery ticket.

The services in question were cross-border services when, as in the main proceedings, they were offered in a member state other than that in which the lottery operator was established.

Admittedly, as some member states had pointed out, lotteries were subject to particularly strict regulation and close control by the public authorities in the various member states of the Community. However, they were not totally prohibited in those states.

On the contrary, they were commonplace. In particular, although in principle lotteries were prohibited in the United Kingdom, small-scale lotteries for charitable and similar purposes were permitted, and, since the enactment of the appropriate law in 1993, so was the national lottery.

In those circumstances, lotteries could not be regarded as activities whose harmful nature caused them to be prohibited in all the member states and whose position under Community law might be likened to that of activities involving illegal products.

It was clear from their wording that the national court's second and third questions were put only if the activity in issue in the main proceedings fell within the scope of article 30 of the Treaty. Since that was not the case, those questions did not call for a reply.

The fifth question:

The essence of the national court's fifth question was whether national legislation which, like the United Kingdom legislation on lotteries, prohibited, subject to specified exceptions, the holding of lotteries in a member state constituted an obstacle to the freedom to provide services.

According to the case-law of the Court, national legislation might fall within the ambit of article 59 of the Treaty, even if it were applicable without distinction, when it was liable to prohibit or otherwise impede the activities of a provider of services established in another member state where he lawfully provided similar services.

It was sufficient to note that this was the case with national legislation such as the United Kingdom legislation on lotteries which wholly precluded lottery operators from other member states from promoting their lotteries and selling their tickets, whether directly or through independent agents, in the member state which enacted that legislation.

The sixth question

The national court's sixth question raised the issue whether the Treaty provisions relating to the freedom to provide services precluded legislation such as the United Kingdom lotteries legislation, where there were concerns of social policy and of the prevention of fraud to justify it.

First, as the national court stated, legislation such as the United Kingdom legislation involved no discrimination on the basis of nationality and must consequently be regarded as being applicable without distinction.

It was true that the prohibition in question in the main proceedings did not apply to all types of lottery, small scale lotteries not conducted for private gain being permitted in the national territory and the prohibition being set in the more general context of the national legislation on gambling which permitted certain forms of gambling similar to lotteries, such as football pools or bingo.

However, even though the amounts at stake in the games so permitted in the United Kingdom might be comparable to those in large scale lotteries and even though those games involved a significant element of chance, they differed in their object, rules and methods of organization from those large scale lotteries which were established in member states other than the United Kingdom before the enactment of the 1993 Act.

In those circumstances legislation such as the United Kingdom legislation could not be considered to be discriminatory.

That led to the question whether article 59 precluded such legislation which, although not discriminatory, restricted the freedom to provide services.

According to the information provided by the referring court, the United Kingdom legislation, before its amendment by the 1993 Act establishing the national lottery, pursued the following objectives: to prevent crime and to ensure that gamblers would be treated honestly; to avoid stimulating demand in the gambling sector which had damaging social consequences when taken to excess; and to ensure that lotteries could not be operated for personal and commercial profit but solely for charitable, sporting or cultural purposes.

Those considerations, which had to be taken together, concerned the protection of the recipients of the service and, more generally, of consumers as well as the maintenance of order in society. The Court had already held that those objectives figured among those which could justify restrictions on freedom to provide services.

Given the peculiar nature of lotteries, which had been stressed by many member states, those considerations were such as to justify restrictions, as regards article 59 which might go so far as to prohibit lotteries in a member state.

Those particular factors justified national authorities having a sufficient degree of latitude to determine what was required to protect the players and, more generally, in the light of the specific social and cultural features of each member state, to maintain order in society, as regards the manner in which lotteries were operated, the size of the stakes, and the allocation of the profits they yielded.

In those circumstances, it was for them to assess not only whether it was necessary to restrict the activities of lotteries but also whether they should be prohibited, provided that those restrictions were not discriminatory.

When a member state prohibited in its territory the operation of large scale lotteries and in particular the advertising and distribution of tickets for that type of lottery, the prohibition on the importation of materials intended to enable nationals of that member state to participate in such lotteries organized in another member state could not be regarded as a measure involving an unjustified interference with the freedom to provide services.

Such a prohibition on import was a necessary part of the protection which that member state sought to secure in its territory in relation to lotteries.

On those grounds, the European Court of Justice ruled:

1 The importation of lottery advertisements and tickets into a member state with a view to the participation by residents of that state in a lottery operated in another member state related to a "service" within the meaning of article 60 of the Treaty and accordingly fell within the scope of article 59 of the Treaty.

2 National legislation which, like the United Kingdom legislation on lotteries, prohibited, subject to specified exceptions, the holding of lotteries in a member state was an obstacle to the freedom to provide services.

3 The Treaty provisions relating to freedom to provide services did not preclude legislation such as the United Kingdom lotteries legislation, in view of the concerns of social policy and of the prevention of fraud which justified it.

Court of Appeal

Law Report March 30 1994

Court of Appeal

Youth incapacity presumption abolished

C (a Minor) v Director of Public Prosecutions

Before Lord Justice Mann and Mr Justice Laws

[Judgment March 29]

The rebuttable presumption that a minor between the ages of 10 and 14 was incapable of committing a crime no longer existed in English law.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in dismissing an appeal by C, a minor, by way of case stated against his conviction by Liverpool Justices on September 22, 1992, for interfering with a motorcycle with the intention to commit theft, contrary to section 9(1) of the Criminal Attempts Act 1981.

Mr J. Trevor Parry-Jones for the prosecution; Mr Andrew G. L. Nicol for the appellant.

LORD JUSTICE MANN, giving the judgment of the court, said that the appellant at the age of 12 was presumed to be *doli incapax* [incapable of committing a crime] until that presumption was rebutted by positive proof adduced by the prosecution that in fact he knew what he did was seriously wrong.

The justices had found that he had known that what he had done was seriously wrong. The damage to the motorcycle had been substantial and the appellant and his accomplice had run from the police.

The justices had drawn the inference from those two facts that he knew that he was in serious trouble because he had done something seriously wrong and had therefore convicted him.

It was submitted for the appellant that the justices were not entitled to draw such an inference. The act of running away was merely equivocal, as consistent with an appreciation of what he had done was naughty as with knowledge that it was seriously wrong. The damage to the motorcycle could not carry the matter any further.

The submission of the prosecution amounted to the proposition that the presumption might be rebutted by the very acts constituted by the alleged offence without any supervening evidence from the prosecution that the child appreciated that what he did was seriously wrong.

His Lordship said that the case law demonstrated that if the presumption were to be rebutted there had to be clear positive evidence that the defendant knew his act was seriously wrong not consisting merely in the evidence of the acts amounting to the offence itself.

Whatever had been the position in an earlier age when there was no system of universal compulsory education and when children did not grow up as quickly as they did nowadays, the presumption at the present time was a serious disservice to the law.

It meant that a child over 10 who committed an act of obvious dishonesty or even grave violence was to be acquitted unless the prosecution specifically proved by discrete evidence that he understood the obliquity of what he was doing.

Such an approach was unreal and contrary to common sense.

Aside from anything else, there would be cases where evidence of the kind required could not be obtained but, quite apart from pragmatic considerations, the presumption was in principle objectionable.

It was no part of the general law that a defendant should be proved to appreciate that his act was seriously wrong; that additional requirement where the presumption applied was out of step with the general law.

The requirement was, furthermore, conceptually obscure. The cases indicated that the presumption might be rebutted by proof that the child was of normal capacity for his age. If that was right the underlying premise was that a child of average or normal development was in fact taken to be *doli capax*, but the effect of the presumption was then that a defendant under 14 was assumed to possess subnormal mental capacity and for that reason be *doli incapax*. There could be no respectable justification for such a bizarre state of affairs.

The rule was also divisive because it attached criminal consequences to the acts of children coming from what used to be called good homes more readily than to the acts of others. It was perverse because it tended to absolve from criminal responsibility the very children most likely to commit criminal acts.

The youngster whose understanding of the difference between right and wrong was fragile or non-existent was more likely to get involved in criminal activity, yet the outdated and unprincipled presumption was tailored to secure his acquittal.

The prosecution were in effect required to prove as a condition of his guilt that he was morally responsible; but it was because he was morally irresponsible that he had committed the crime in the first place.

It was not surprising that the presumption took root in an era when the criminal law was altogether more draconian but the philosophy of criminal punishment had obviously changed out of all recognition since those days. The presumption had no utility whatever in the present era and ought to go.

The question was whether the court had authority to abolish it. Three arguments might be advanced to persuade the court that it ought not, or could not, abolish the rule:

1 The court's decision would have retroactive effect since the law had not yet developed a practice of prospective rulings. Accordingly by holding that the presumption was no longer part of the criminal jurisprudence the court should be changing the legal rules effective at the time of the appellant's actual or putative crime and doing so retrospectively.

There would be manifest injustice were the court to extend the ambit of a criminal offence beyond its earlier limits and so pronounce a defendant guilty whose relevant actions were taken at a time when the definition of the offence in question did not touch them.

This was not such a case. There was no conceivable injustice to the appellant if the court consigned the presumption to legal history.

2 The presumption was of such long standing that it should only be changed by Parliament, or at least a decision by the House of Lords.

Antiquity of itself conferred no virtue upon the legal *status quo*. The common law was not a system of rigid rules but of principles whose application might alter over time and should be renewed by succeeding generations of judges. In the present case, the conditions under which the presumption was developed in the earlier law now had no application.

3 The court was bound by the doctrine of precedent to adhere to the presumption.

The rules of *stare decisis* provided a crucial counterpoint to the law's capacity for change; apparently established principles were not to be altered save through the measured deliberation of a hierarchical system.

Although first instance courts did not, on the whole, effect root and branch changes to legal principle, the Divisional Court was in a peculiar position being a first instance court but an appellate court for cases like the present; and in such cases there was no appeal from its decisions save to the House of Lords.

All the cases cited in argument save two were either in the Divisional Court or at trial at first instance. It was clear on authority that the Divisional Court had power to depart from its own previous decisions.

All earlier decisions proceeded on the unargued premise that the presumption now in question was undoubtedly part of the fabric of English criminal law. To discard it therefore did not involve any disagreement with the express reasoning in those cases.

There was not the least impediment, in his Lordship's judgment, upon departing from the earlier Divisional Court authorities so far as they upheld the existence of the presumption: to do so was no affront to any principle of judicial comity, far less the doctrine of precedent.

The two cases in the Court of Appeal which were cited in argument proceeded upon the same unargued premise. That being so, the court was entitled to depart from the premise which lay behind the Court of Appeal's two decisions. To do so did not involve any departure from any adjudication which that court was required to make upon an issue in dispute before it.

In the circumstances, the presumption relied upon by the appellant was no longer part of the law of England and the appeal would therefore be dismissed.

Solicitors: R. M. Broudie & Co, Liverpool; Crown Prosecution Service, Liverpool.

Judicial fiction not applicable

In re Palmer, Deceased (a Debtor)

Before Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Roch

[Judgment March 11]

The rule that a judicial act was effective from the moment of the first day that it was made should not be applied in such a way as to admit an interpretation of secondary legislation which would be beyond the scope of the powers conferred by the primary enabling legislation.

The rule could not be applied so as to make an insolvency administration order made under the Administration of Insolvent Estates of Deceased Persons Order (SI 1986 No 1999) take effect as if made during the lifetime of a deceased person.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by Avril Palmer, widow of Gavin Hilary Palmer, from an order of Mr Justice Vinelott ([1993] 3 WLR 877), declaring that the deceased's estate included a half-share in a house in Leeds which had been conveyed to Mr and Mrs Palmer as joint tenants in law and equity.

Section 421 of the Insolvency Act 1986 provides: "(1) The Lord Chancellor may, by order made with the concurrence of the secretary of state, provide that such provisions of this Act as may be specified in the order shall apply to administration of the insolvent estates of deceased persons with such modifications as may be so specified."

Article 3 of the 1986 Order provides: "(1) The provisions of the Act . . . shall apply to the administration in bankruptcy of the insolvent estates of deceased persons dying before presentation of a bankruptcy petition . . ."

Mr Roger Kaye, QC and Miss Lena Hilliard for Mrs Palmer; Mr Daniel Serota and Mr John Briggs for the trustee of the estate.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE said the appellant's husband, a solicitor, had died on November 22, 1990, after his partner had reported him to the Law Society, claiming he was guilty of serious defalcations. An insolvency administration order had been made in August 1991 on the petition of his executor.

The judge below had decided that the effect of the insolvency administration order was retrospectively to sever the joint tenancy of the family home, so that half the beneficial interest devolved as part of the deceased's estate, rather than passing by law of survivorship to his widow.

The judge had achieved that result by treating the insolvency administration order made on August 17, 1991 as having been made on November 22, 1990. To that he had added a second judicial fiction: that a judicial act was presumed to have been made on the first moment of the day when it was done and took precedence over non-judicial acts.

His Lordship saw force in Mr Kaye's submission that the construction of the 1986 Order relied on to produce that result was *ultra vires* section 421.

His Lordship reviewed the authorities going back to *Shelley's Case* ((1581) Co Rep 93). He concluded that if it had been necessary for the purposes of the case he would have been prepared to hold that it was now time that that ancient rule should be given its quietus in so far as it operated to require the court to assume something that was known to be untrue.

However, it was sufficient to say that in his Lordship's judgment the rule could not be allowed to operate so that, piling one fiction upon another, a statutory instrument modifying primary legislation was to be construed in such a manner as to render it prima facie *ultra vires*.

His Lordship was satisfied, simply by construing the 1986 Act and the 1986 Order, that they did not have the effect found by the judge.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS said the basis for the rule that a judicial act was effective from the first moment of the day on which it took place was the precedence given to Crown acts, including judicial acts, over private acts done on the same day and that the fiction with regard to timing was no more than a means of implementation.

The rule did not necessarily involve any fiction as to the time when the act and the transaction respectively occurred. The time had come to say the fiction should have no place when the true facts were known, at least in cases where the court's jurisdiction was concerned.

The fiction that the insolvency administration order was made at the earliest moment of November 22, 1990 when Mr Palmer was still alive was in conflict not only with common sense, but with the true effect of the provisions themselves.

Section 421 of the 1986 Act alone gave power to regulate the administration of the insolvent estates of deceased persons. Nothing in the Act or the Order empowered the court to make an insolvency administration order in respect of the estate of a person who was not deceased, nor could any rule of law be relied on to produce the fictional result that a person was dead when in fact still alive.

Lord Justice Roch agreed.

Solicitors: Jones Myers, Leeds; R. C. Moorhouse & Co, Leeds.

Wrong advice given

Rush v Director of Public Prosecutions

Justices were wrongly advised by their clerk on the burden of proof cast upon a defendant who, having provided specimens of breath, alleged that an unrecorded conversation had taken place between herself and the police which had had the effect of dissuading her from exercising her right to provide an alternative specimen of blood or urine.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Curtis) so held on March 3 when allowing the appeal by way of case stated of Lucinda Kerry Rush against her conviction by Southampton Justices on November 30, 1992 of a drink-driving offence under section 5(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

LORD JUSTICE McCOWAN said that the justices had been advised that they should consider whether the defendant had shown on a balance of probabilities that the conversation which she alleged to have occurred between herself and officers who were following the Lion Intoximeter procedure did in fact take place in the terms and with the effect alleged, namely, that it dissuaded her from exercising her right to provide an alternative specimen of blood or urine for analysis.

It was the most obvious common sense that they should have been advised that if they thought, as a result of any evidence from either the police or the defendant that the conversation might have taken place in the terms and with the effect alleged, that they should acquit. The conviction had to be quashed.

THE TIMES

Crossword range

With the exception of the Jumbo books, prices include a mail order charge of 75p per item for the UK only. For overseas supplements see below.
†† = **Available in computer format**

The Times Book of Jumbo Crosswords **£3.99**
add £1.26 postage (UK market only)

The Times Jumbo Crosswords Book 2 **£4.99**
add £1.00 postage (UK market only)

The Times Jumbo Concise Crosswords Book 1 **£4.99**
add £1.00 postage (UK market only)

The Times Crosswords, Books 1 to 13
(Penguin) **£4.74 each**

The Times Crosswords, Books 14, 15 & 16 **£4.25 each** ††

The Times Concise Crosswords, Books 1 & 2
(240 puzzles) **£5.74 each**

The Times Concise Crosswords, Books 3 & 4 **£4.25 each** ††

The Sunday Times Crosswords, Books 1 to 9
(Penguin) **£4.74 each**

The Sunday Times Crosswords, Books 10 and 11
£4.25 each ††

The Sunday Times Concise Crosswords, Books 1 & 2
£4.25 each ††

NEW! from Times Books:

The Seventeenth Book of The Times Crosswords £4.25 ††

Fifth Book of The Times Concise Crosswords £4.25 ††

The Twelfth Book of Sunday Times Crosswords £4.25 ††

The Times Computer Crosswords
by David Akenhead

Available for IBM PCs and Acorn computers including Archimedes range, now with advanced graphics and help facilities and designed for **beginners** and **experts** alike - on 3.5 and 5.25 discs (please specify)
(circa 60 crosswords each)

The Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 ††

The Times Jubilee Puzzles 1932-1987 (56 crosswords) ††

The Times Concise Crosswords 3 (100 crosswords) ††

The Sunday Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1,2,3,4 ††

NEW! Just released:

Sunday Times Computer Crosswords Volumes 5 & 6 ††

Software prices: £14.95 per title

Additional mail order charges including airmail postage
Europe (inc Irish Rep) **add 50p per item**
Zone 1 **add £1.00 per item** (inc America, Africa)
Zone 2 **add £1.25 per item** (inc Australia, N Zealand)
Surface mail **add 50p** per item

US dollar cheques welcome - (£1 = US$1.50)

Please send cheques or postal orders (sorry, no credit cards) payable to **Akom Ltd, Times Crossword Account** to Akom Limited, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW

Enquiries, telephone **081-852 4575** (24 hours)
Return delivery (UK)

Scots Law Report March 30 1994 High Court of Justiciary

Corroboration necessary to prove insider dealing offence

MacKie v H M Advocate

Before the Lord Justice-General (Lord Hope), Lord Cowie and Lord Mayfield

[Judgment February 16]

Where a person was charged with insider dealing, by way of counselling or procuring other persons to deal with the securities of a company while the accused was in possession of unpublished price-sensitive information which he was alleged to have obtained from a person connected with the company, the allegation that the accused had been in possession of the information had to be proved by corroborated evidence.

If the Crown relied on surrounding facts and circumstances for corroboration, then those facts and circumstances had to be more consistent with the Crown's account than with the accused's account of what happened.

The High Court of Justiciary, sitting as the Court of Criminal Appeal, so held, allowing an appeal by Mr Thorold MacKie against a conviction for a contravention of sections 1(7) and (8) of the Company Securities (Insider Dealing) Act 1985.

Section 1 of the 1985 Act provides: "(3) The next subsection applies where – (a) an individual has information which he knowingly obtained (directly or indirectly) from another individual who – (i) is connected with a particular company, or was at any time in the six months preceding the obtaining of the information so connected, and (ii) the former individual knows or has reasonable cause to believe held the information by virtue of being so connected, and (b) the former individual knows or has reasonable cause to believe that, because of the latter's connection and position, it would be reasonable to expect him not to disclose the information except for the proper performance of the functions attaching to that position.

"(4) Subject to section 3, the former individual in that case – (a) shall not himself deal on a recognised stock exchange in securities of that company if he knows that the information is unpublished price-sensitive information in relation to those securities . . .

"(7) Subject to section 3, an individual who is for the time being prohibited by any provision of this section from dealing on a recognised stock exchange in any securities shall not counsel or procure any other person to deal in those securities, knowing or having reasonable cause to believe that that person would deal in them on a recognised stock exchange."

Miss Ann Paton, QC, for the Crown; Mr Donald MacFadyen, QC and Miss Joyce Powrie for the appellant.

THE LORD JUSTICE-GENERAL said that there were two essential elements in the Crown case. The first sought to establish that the appellant was an individual for the time being prohibited by subsection (4) from dealing with the securities of the company.

The narrative in the charge was that the appellant, an investment analyst, had knowingly obtained from a director of the company information regarding the forthcoming issue of a profits warning by the company.

The second element sought to establish that the appellant had acted in breach of section 1(7), by counselling and procuring two salesmen employed by his employers, a firm of brokers, to sell a substantial number of shares of the company. What was in dispute was whether the appellant had been in possession of the information, having obtained it from the director.

The only two persons who had been present at the relevant meeting had been the appellant and the director. The director's evidence had been that he had told the appellant that there was going to be a profits warning. The appellant had been adamant in his evidence that the director had said no such thing.

The Crown case could not succeed unless the director's evidence was accepted as credible and reliable. But it was also necessary for his evidence to be corroborated. In the circumstances, it was necessary for the Crown to rely for corroboration on facts and circumstances.

The Crown sought to do that by reference, *inter alia*, to evidence about what happened after the meeting and the appellant had returned to his firm, when he had seen the salesmen. The appellant had then told them that, in view of what he had learned from his visit to the company, he now expected there to be little or no growth in the earnings per share of his company, and that he had reached the conclusion that his recommendation should be altered from "hold", to a recommendation that investors should "top slice" their holdings.

He had not said anything about a forthcoming issues of a profits warning. During the following week the salesmen had sold in excess of 1.95 million shares in the company.

The trial judge had held that on the whole evidence a jury could say beyond reasonable doubt that it was a reasonable inference from the facts that the appellant had acted as he did with the knowledge that he had in relation to a profits warning.

The question was whether the director's evidence had been corroborated. It was sometimes suggested that the requirement for corroboration was of little practical importance today in the law of Scotland, but the function and importance of the requirement could be seen clearly in present case.

There had been a sharp issue of credibility and reliability between the only two witnesses who had been present at the meeting during which the information was said to have been communicated. On that vital fact, the director's evidence had to be corroborated: see *Morton v H M Advocate* (1938 JC 50, 52); Hume *Crimes* II 383).

The argument for the Crown was that the evidence was corroborated by facts and circumstances. But in his Lordship's opinion the question which then had to be considered was whether the facts and circumstances, when taken together, were more consistent with the director's evidence than with the appellant's evidence: see *O'Hara v Central SMT Co* (1941 SC 363, 379).

The Crown submitted that, where the circumstantial evidence might give rise to various inferences, it was enough that one of them was consistent with the account given by the director. That overlooked the fact that what was required was independent evidence to support one of two different accounts of what had been said.

Circumstantial evidence which was equally consistent with the appellant's account of the meeting could not be said to support the director's account of it.

At best for the Crown such evidence was neutral, and if it was neutral it could not provide corroboration: see *Morgan v H M Advocate* (1989 SCCR 25) and *Moore v H M Advocate* (1993 SCCR 1105, 1110-E).

The evidence on which the Crown relied by way of facts and circumstances was that prior to the events in dispute, the market as a whole had had confidence in the company's shares. Of particular importance were the actions taken by the salesmen when the appellant had spoken to them on his return. There was the haste with which the shares were sold and the sheer volume of dealing.

But his Lordship did not think that anything which preceded the appellant's meeting with the director could corroborate the latter's evidence that he had told the appellant that there was going to be a profits warning.

The events which happened afterwards appeared to his Lordship on the evidence in this case to be entirely neutral, however surprising at first sight they may have seemed. That was because the evidence was that everything that the salesmen had then said and done proceeded on the information which the appellant had then given to them, which had been that he was down-grading his recommendation in regard to the company's shares.

All the information which he had disclosed to them was information which he had been at liberty to disclose. And the information which they had received from him was sufficient to persuade the salesmen to act as they had done.

The facts and circumstances, when taken together, were entirely consistent with the innocent account which the appellant had given of the meeting. They were not capable of corroborating the account of it which the director had given.

TO ADVERTISE CALL:
071 481 1986 (trade)
071 481 4000 (private)

PROPERTY

FAX:
071 782 7826
071-782 7827

NEW HOMES



THEY DON'T BUILD HOUSES LIKE THEY USED TO

REDROW HOMES

BUILD THEM BETTER

FOR FURTHER DETAILS OF SITES IN YOUR AREA DIAL 100 AND ASK FOR FREEPHONE REDROW HOMES

TRADITIONALLY BUILT HOMES FROM 2 TO 5 BEDROOMS
£36,950 to £250,000+

DEVON & CORNWALL

LUXURY Holiday Homes IN CORNWALL
2 & 3 BEDROOM HOMES IN A SUPERB BEACH LOCATION
PRICES FROM
£72,495
Maenporth
THIS EXCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT OFFERS
- Leisure complex and swimming pool
- Twenty-nine acres of private parkland
- Two all weather tennis courts
- Children's play area
- Seahorse Pub & Terrace Bar
- Sauna and spa pool
- Magnificent sandy beach and south facing views

SEND FOR A FREE VIDEO

SPECIAL HOTEL BREAK Take advantage of our special offer and stay at a luxury hotel at specially negotiated rates.

FOR FULL DETAILS PHONE 0326 250000
PILKINGTON
PILKINGTON HOMES TEL 0744 853077
ALEXANDRA HOUSE, BOROUGH ROAD ST HELENS WA10 3TN.

FINLAKE WOODLAND VILLAGE
LEISURE HOMES
WITHIN EASY REACH OF TORBAY & DARTMOOR
PURCHASE LEASEHOLD FROM £35,000
Management & rental services • Set in 130 acres • Indoor & outdoor swimming pools • Bars & Restaurant • Tennis courts • 9 Hole pitch & putt • Fishing lakes
(0626) 852137

RETIREMENT HOMES

ENGLISH COURTYARD IN THE VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE

An Oxfordshire village, a river and a view to the Downs. Shops and pubs around the corner. Privacy, quiet, comfort and space for living.

Penstones Court, Stanford in the Vale.

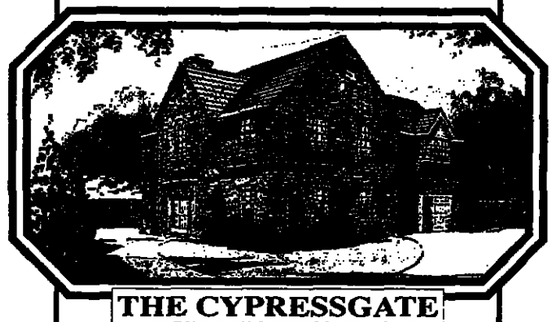
2 and 3 bedroom cottages from £172,500 to £197,500

Show house open every day of the week from 10.00am to 4.00pm.

The English Courtyard Association
8, Holland Street, London W8 4LT
FREEPHONE 0800-220858

COUNTRY PROPERTY

AN AFFORDABLE CHOICE



THE CYPRESSGATE
IMPRESSIVE FOUR BEDROOMED HOUSE
£112,000

FROM BROADGATE HOMES

At three locations in Lincolnshire
With all the benefits of traditional build.

SPALDING: Two bed houses from £39,500
Three bed houses from £44,950
Four bed houses from £74,950
Three bed bungalows from £68,500

SLEAFORD: Four bed houses from £107,000

SIBSEY: Three bed houses from £62,950
Four bed houses from £72,950
Five bed houses from £129,950

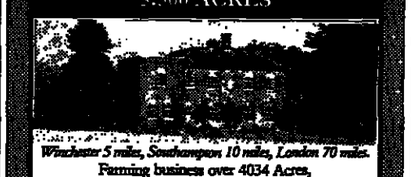
Broadgate Homes

For further details please contact our Spalding Showhouse and Sales Centre
Open daily 10.30 am - 5 pm
Telephone: 0775 711637
Fax: 0406 380014

SAVILLS

HAYS FARMS (HURSLEY) LIMITED

THE HURSLEY ESTATE
HAMPSHIRE
5,500 ACRES



Winchester 5 miles, Southampton 10 miles, London 70 miles.
Farming business over 4034 Acres,
1489 Acres Woodland
4 Houses and 30 Cottages. 11,000 tonnes grain storage.
2 Dairy Units with 1.65m litres Milk Quota.
The Hursley Estate Shoot and Stalking.

The entire issued Share Capital of the Company is to be sold by TENDER - closing date 31st May 1994.

Savills London, (071) 499 8644 Contact: Justin Marking
Savills Salisbury (0722) 320422 Contact: Roger Singleton

SHOW KITCHENS WANTED URGENTLY

WE WILL BUILD YOU A SUPERB KITCHEN AT A FRACTION OF THE NORMAL COST - IF YOU LET US SHOW IT TO 6 PROSPECTIVE CUSTOMERS.

This is a genuine offer to enable us to quickly establish a network of LUXURY SHOW KITCHENS across the country to support our national advertising campaign. Over 15 eyecatching ranges with many combination options in a multitude of finishes to choose from.

PHONE NOW 0582 29404
ASK FOR EXT 5118
CHRIS PLUMMER
Sorry no tenants

Arthur Rathbone KITCHENS LIMITED

ARTHUR RATHBONE KITCHENS LTD. The Old Bascroft Building, Kingsham Way, Reginald Street, Luton, Beds LU2 7RS

One of the most prestigious residential areas on the outskirts of London

"COPPERFIELDS"
BARNET LANE, ELSTREE HERTFORDSHIRE

A LUXURY 5 BEDROOMED RESIDENCE (WITH GUEST ROOM) OF HIGH QUALITY IN A UNIQUE & SECLUDED LOCATION

Built in security in house and grounds. Price £595,000.

WARD HOMES on 0634 855111

HERTFORDSHIRE

FOR West Herts/Chilterns contact David Doyle Estate Agents on (0442) 868662/828456.

GRAND UNION Canal. Pretty 3 bed semi. Quiet Loc. 87ft private moorings. Gdn/patio easy commute. £159K. 0895 823748

HARPENDEN Magnificent 3 yr old, 5 bed, 3 bath, det dble/garage, secluded garden. exclusive avenue. £438,000 Ashtons: 0582 461166

SERVICES

CONVEYANCING LINE 0323 412092 - efficient & friendly service, very competitive fees. Thompson Attield Solicitors

KENT

BROWNS S.E. KENT
NR FOLKESTONE
Substantial refurbished Grade II Listed Farmhouse in lovely rural setting, 6 beds, 3 rec. and garages. Extensive farms and Outbuildings. PP to convert to 6 separate additional dwellings. Grounds of 5.25 acres.
PRICE GUIDE: £415,000
Apply Sole Agents:
Browns, Bank Buildings, Ellham, Canterbury, Kent
Tel: 0303 840422

HEREFORDSHIRE, WORCS, & SHROP

Nationwide

VALE FARM, OFFENHAM WORCESTERSHIRE

Detached country residence set in approx 1¾ acres of mature gardens and woodlands. Three receptions, cloaks, four bedrooms, two bathrooms.
Price £240,000
Further 13½ acres (approx) of land as optional extra. No agricultural occupancy condition.
Nationwide Estate Agents Tel 0386 765280

McCARTHEYS. Finding the right property for you in the Welsh Borders. 0544 811999.

OXFORDSHIRE

Lane Fox

OXON/NORTHANTS BORDERS

M40 (J11) 6m, Banbury 6m. former 19th Century chapel converted to form delightful cottage. Open plan Sitting/dining room/kit, 2 bedrooms, bathroom. Garage & Garden. Region £85,000.
Banbury office 0295 273592.

SURREY

PURLEY

Two superb St GEORGE new 4 and 5 bedroom houses, with fabulous views across wide open space.

2 luxurious bathrooms, study, utility room, breakfast room, walk - in larder & kitchen with just about every appliance.

Helpful, part exchange plan. £275,000 & £279,950.

View house open 10 till 6 every day. Hillcrest Road, off Brighton Road.

081 763 9322

ASHSTEAD Large bungalow 4 beds, Lounge, sitting room dble garage over ½ acre landscaped gdn. £270 K Tel: 0372 276090.

GEORGIAN HOUSE being part of mansion in village position. 2 miles M25/A3 junction. 4 beds, 3 recep, 2 baths, kitchen & cloaks, garage. CH. Refrigerant & reslet required. £305,000. Goodrick Meech 0483 224343.

SURBITON Coach house Circa 1840. Detached 2 bed. New kitchen. Private garden etc. £125,000 ono. 081 549 8569.

WEYBRIDGE Det 3 bed hse, 2 recept, 2 baths, c/kitch, dble gge, gdn. £230,000. 0932 846126.

SUSSEX

CHICHESTER Elegant 1st flr apartment in Georgian Grade II Listed house close City centre. Grnd flr ent hall, landing, 1st rm, newly fitd kit/din rm, 2 beds, new shwr/wc, dble glass. g. ch. Oper. Mature gdns £150,000 t/h. Stride & Son Chichester (0243) 782626

DITCHLING Village, 350 yrs old. Restored property, lounge 24ft feet 60+, lovely living accom. Also conv. Barn. Enorm potential. £275k, 0273 844033.

LYMINSTER nr Arundel. Det 5 bedrm house. dble garage, gdn, lovely position. nr BR. £145,000. Tel: 0903 882382.

SUSSEX COAST Top floor apartment with panoramic sea views, overlooking landscaped gdns. 3 bedrooms, 19ft recep-tion rm, sitting rm, gch and south facing balconies. G.U.E.O £100,000. 0245 821838.

W SUSSEX Beach. An intriguing 4/5 bed period of history & mystery in an acre. Offers in excess of £258,000. 0243 787078.

WALES

CONWY VALLEY North Wales. Private Luxury Apartments River & Mountain Views. Boat Park. Show Apartment open Easter weekend: Sat & Sun 2-6pm, or by appt. Joint Agents: Lee Properties 0492 544241 Nationwide: 0492 533357

MONT/SHROPS Border's. Edwardian house 6 beds, oil CH. Stable w/flatic conversion. Walled gdn. 3 acres woodland, river frontage, fishing rights. £150,000 ono. 0691 828573.

USK Conservation. Estate 70 acres 2 houses, woodland, stream, ponds etc. £550,000 ono. 081 948 2081.

CHELSEA & KENSINGTON

CADOGAN GDNS 2 bed flt, sy order, new to mkt. £250,000 Herne & Son 071 499 9344.

CHELSEA, Sloane AVE. lux studio, near to tbr. in a court-yard. furn. 24hr secur. bargain £ 62,500. tel 0962 677220.

CHELSEA, Sloane AVE. lux studio, near to tbr. in a court-yard. furn. 24hr secur. bargain £ 62,500 tel 0962 677220.

CHELSEA HOMESEARCH CO We represent the buyer to save time and money.071 937 2281.

KENSINGTON (West). W14. Victorian House. 1st floor 1 bedrm flat. 16'2 recep with dining area and 3 double sized doors on to balcony (the width of the house). kitchen, bedroom, bathrm, entryphone. 125 yrs lease £79,950. 071 602 8374

ONSLOW SQUARE pied-a-terre. Magnificent drawing room with balcony overlooking square. Small bedroom, bath, kit. Goods storage. 41 year lease. £210,000. Tel 071 736 3480

WANTED flat, period building in need of refurb/modernisation up to £160K. 071 371 4425.

WE CAN find the property you are looking for. Simon Croft Property Consultants, 148 Walton St SW3. 071 584 6006.

WEST KENSINGTON 1 bed 1st floor flat with balcony well maint. share t/h £77,000 081 348 6789 ask for Rainbow Ops

CITY & WEST END

BARBICAN & CITY For March lists of the widest selection of flats from £55,000. Call Frank Harris & Co. 071-600 7000

BLOOMSBURY/Holborn Property List. Studios from £45,000 1 beds from £68,000 Frank Harris & Co. 071 387 0077

EC1 Off Wilmington Sq. Period townhouse 3 bed. thru recept. dining, fitted kit. bathrm. utility rm. patio/gdn. Gas CH. Freehold. £225,000. Sole Agents. Jarvis Keiter 071-251 9226

HYDE PARK 2 bed penthouse flat, west facing terrace, private gardens, lift & garage. 187 yr. lease. £167,500. 071 352 6799.

£225,000 WC1 Lloyd Baker St. 3 rms. f/h fam hse & s/c flat. patio, rf terrace 071 833 8588

CITY & WEST END

BAKER ST, NW1. 7th floor, 1 bed flat, en suite bath + guest WC. Kitchen, all machines. 119 yrs. £105,000 inc all contents. Excellent rental prospects. Glebe Ass 071 935 9612

BARBICAN South and west facing sixth floor flat with two bedrooms, two reception rooms and study. £119,000. Frank Harris & Co. 071-600 7000

CITY & WEST END

W2 Late Georgian town house, Connaught Square. Including basement flat comprising 2 rooms, kitchen and bathroom. separate entrance from street. small back yard. Ground floor, dining room, kitchen, study. W.C. First storey double aspect L shaped drawing room, roof patio. Second storey master bedroom with en-suite bathroom. Third storey, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Property needs some interior decoration but, new roof, pointing and exterior painting in last 4 years. 113 year lease. £650,000. Tel 071 683 6004 or 0363 720603.

HAMPSTEAD & HIGHGATE

CROUCH END N8. 2 bed flat. 5th floor. Panoramic original features incl f/place. 1 bed en suite. £102,500. 081 348 6525.

HAMPSTEAD HEATH Exceptional designer maisonette, private entrance, off Parliament Hill Fields, mint condition, tastefully appointed, original features. 3 beds, 2 baths, spacious living/dining/kit area o/looking conserv., patio gdn. 990 yrs. £226,000. 071 485 7661.

HAMPSTEAD Fab penthouse flat. 3 bed/ 3 ensuite baths, spectacular 30 ft sq reception o/looking London. £195,000. 125 yrs. 071 722 8614.

MAYFAIR

MOUNT STREET Sunny 5th Facing to gdns. 2 dbl bedrm. bathrm. dbl recptn. All mod. appliances. 42% over lse. £238,000. Furniture avail by pers. Owners sale 071 499 6110

NORTH OF THE THAMES

BRACKENBURY VILLAGE W6
Extended Victorian refurb 4 flr Villa 4/5 beds. 2/3 recs. magnif master suite + dressing. 2 power baths. lux kit. util. conserv. Futterton g.ch. Walled gdn. Space & quality £715,000 f/h
Why pay more
WHITMANS
081 747 8800

W10 QUEENS PARK FOR QUICK SALE
Nr Ladbroke Grove & canal
2 bedroom Victorian house. Refurbished to require standard retaining original features. Attracting patio/landscaped gdn, ideal BBQ parties. Nr sports centre (daily swim). 2 tube stns West End 15mins.
BARGAIN F/H £118,000
Tel:081 960 3489

CHEPSTOW PL. W2 1/2 bs raised grd flr flt, orig feats 80' gdn. £178,500. 071 221 8096.

EALING WS. Det. F'hold, corner plot 4 bed 3 rec GCH cloaks cellar. L/Gdn, Gge. Clse tube. Easy access to W.End /Heathrow £185,000. 081 840 6969

FULHAM Unique 2 bed corner cottage with own ige studio style gge, w'shop. £149,950. Squire Radcliffe 071 381 3553

NORTH OF THE THAMES

FULHAM Attractive 3 bed Victorian house with 36' garden. 26' dble recep rm, cloaks rm, kitchen/ dining rm. £169,500. Vanstone 071 736 9822

HEART of the Cotswolds. Secluded and exclusive luxurious georgian country retreat. becom the discerning to an amazing experience of country living. Tel 0452 813025/ 0452 813947.

HOLLAND PARK AVE Stunning penthouse, dble recep, dining, kit/brkst. 5 bed suites, patio, sun deck. 991 yrs £985,000 Horne & Sons 071 499 9344.

LITTLE VENICE/Maida Vale. The specialist local agents. Vickers & Co 071 289 1692

QUEENS CLUB GDS W14. Playfair Mans. 5 bed 2 bath. dbl recep, balcony. £305,000. Wordsworth Mans. 4 bed, 1 bath. recep kit/diner. £180,000. Both o/look private gdn set with tennis lawn Anthony & Co 071 381 0133.

QUEENSBOROUGH MS W2. Super 3 bd 2 bth balcony. 2nd flr mod blk. Lift. 78 yrs £185K Central Estates 071 224 3993

ROSAVILLE RD. SW6. Immac. 3 dble bed Hse in quiet St. cloTube. 27ft recep. 17ft kit/brkfst rm. sunny gdn. £215,000. 071 385 5418. 0508 488383 (eves).

W12. Edwardian Rectory. landmark. newly refurb. 4 beds. 3 rec. 2 WCs. Cnr plot. lge grdn with orge. Room for expansion. f/h. £265,000. 081 743 3101.

RICHMOND & KINGSTON

RICHMOND HILL. Large 3 bedroom 1906 mansion flat, close to river and park. Extensive views. Many original features £195,000. Tel 081 898 4333.

RICHMOND Bargain Lge 3 b/r cellar Tce hse 6 mins walk Richmond centre & tube & BR on Sheen Road. £140.5K ono for quick EOC 081 241 8405.

TEDDINGTON Detached house. 3 bed. 2 reception kitchen, bathroom, sep WC, utility room. Integ. garage, gch. f/h. £173,500 Tel: 081 977 1300.

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

SW15
VIEW IMMEDIATELY
Attractive Edwardian five bedroom family house. Spacious original features, drawingroom, dining room and breakfast room overlooking sunny garden. Fitted kitchen, utility room, cloakroom. 2 bathrooms, sep wc. Off street parking, good rail links to City.
£230,000
Tel:081 876 7532

CLAPHAM Old Town Charming early Victorian family house, 4 bedrms. 2 bathr (1 e/s). dble recep. Small conservatory/study. Fitd kit. dining rm. playroom. Sth facing gdn. £350,000 f/h. Vanstone 081 673 4577

CLAPHAM PK Spacious 1930's mid terr hse. 3 bed. 2 rec. sm gdn. GCH. £95K 071 737 2990.

SW15 1 bed conversion with s/t garden and cellar £83,500 Cooney Duffy 081 785 2229

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

WALCOT SQUARE. SE11. Totally unmodernised Grade II Listed hse on 3 flrs. Exc opportunity to refurbish. Will make 2/3 recpns. 2/3 beds + kit & bath. In Division left: accessible to City, Westminster & West End. OIRO £140,000 f/hold. Daniel Smith 071 735 9610

WANDSWORTH COMMON det dbl fronted hse. in excellent cond. 7 beds. 4 baths (2 ens). 31 ft dbl recep. dining rm. fully fit kit. + brkfast rm. conserv. playrm. cloakrm. ige cellar. ige rear facing gdn. off st. parking £480,000. Tel 081 767 0821.

WANDSWORTH COMMON Spac 1 bed flat in dbl fronted Vict hse. 19'x14' rec. video ent system. G ch. immac cond. OSP need to sell - baby due. No chain. £78,500. Nick 081 675 8471 or 0850 849382

BERKSHIRE

WINDSOR HOLIDAY HOMES
New & used caravans for sale from £6,500 on lovely marina site adjacent to Windsor Racecourse. 9 month season. Licensed club shop fishing. On A308 Maidenhead Rd, Windsor
0753 831706

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

CHESHAM - London 27 miles. Mod line Semi St. 45 mins. Detached family home overlooking beautiful Pendor Vale in the Chilterns. Entrance hall, cloakroom. Shower/sauna. 2 recepts, kit/b'fst rm, utility. 5 beds, bathrm. Flexible accomm. Dble gge. Additional workshop, garage. Grounds of about .75 of an acre. £335,000. Freehold. Humberts (07077) 276551, Potter & Ford (04941) 778844.

COTSWOLDS

MORETON-IN-MARSH - 1 mile to small hamlet: Cotswold Stone 4-bed 19thC Farmhouse. landscaped Gdns pasture paddock and stables. About 6 Acres. £295,000. Taylor & Fletcher Chipping Norton 0608 644344

SWERFORD (nr Chipping Norton). 17th C 3-bed Listed Cot. Lge for complete restoration. with ½ Acre. Auction (unless sold) - 4 May. Taylor & Fletcher Chipping Norton 0608 644344

THREE TRADITIONAL Cotswold stone converted barns, nr Burford. From £140,000. Phone for details and plans. 0451 861001.

TWIDT CHIPPING NORTON & Morston. Stone built Baptist Chapel with p/p for 3 bed conversion. Small Garden. Auction - 4 May. Taylor & Fletcher Chipping Norton 0608 644344

DEVON & CORNWALL

DEVON Charming period residence with about 11 acres, situated in unspoilt rural surroundings with backing in and country lanes and pasture & trout fishing in nearby river Torridge. House offers spacious 4 bedroomed accommodation with many original features & is set in 3.5 acres of landscaped grounds. Buildings include traditional barns & linhay. Field with stream. Price includes £245,000. Graham Whitlock Estate Agents 2 The Square Haldworthy Devon EX22 6DW tel (0409) 254949

LOOE Mod 2 bed a.c. bal. flat in grounds of blazer. Indoor/out-door pools, ballroom, bars etc. 82yr lse. P.Cons precludes full residential use. Price £18,750. Tel: 0503 263811

MORVAH Listed 2 bedroom terraced miner's cottage in wild moorland setting. Some original features. OFCH, garden. £55,000. 081 969 3602 or Penzance 0736 788881.

EAST ANGLIA

SUFFOLK
NR ALDESBURTH.
A12 5 miles, Ipswich 20 miles. Grade II Listed country house in a rural location with views, mostly rolling countryside. 2 acres max. 2 bathrooms, 6 reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, off central heating, thatching, outbuildings, games/double cart, driveway with, small gardens. About 4.5 acres. Region £260,000.
Savills (0473) 228191

ESSEX

COUNTRY COTTAGE 5 beds. 3 reception. Many original features. Excellent order. Chelmsford 8 mls. Mainline station to London Liverpool St - 5 mins drive. £195,000. 0245 381273

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

NR CHELTENHAM Detached Cotswold stone cottage in quiet unspoilt setting. Sitting room, dining room, kitchen, 3 beds, bath, garden. Region £127,500. Lane Fox 0285 653101.

GUITSTARDING views to Painswick from west facing Cotswold ridge set in 1 acre. Lounge 32', study, dining rm, kitchen, glazed garden rm 27', master bedrm suite, further 3 dble bedrms, attic playroom 30', garaging for 4 cars, garden backs onto National Trust land. convenient Cheltenham, Gloucester Stroud Cirencester £189,000. 0452 813226.

HANTS, DORSET, AND I.O.W.

Yellow 3 Developments

Sandbanks, Poole

Architect designed luxury 4 bedroom penthouse excellent views of sea and harbour and with beach frontage.

£395,000.

For more information/ brochure 0202 660312

5 ACRES Of unspoilt country-side, with planning permission for 1, 5 bedroom house, further land may be available. Isle of Wight £57,500. 0983 760619.

HANTS, Sussex, Surrey borders. Waterloo one hr. Fine colonial style residence facing S + W. 2.25 acres, magnificent view. 5 pool, T court. Garaging 4 cars. 4 Recep, 4 dble bed, 3 bath. Guest wing designed for granny annexe. Offers in the region of £295,000. 0730 893326.

HANTS Kilmeston. Period hse listed Grade II in centre of village. 5 recpns. 1/2 studies. Cellar. 4/5 beds, bath, 2 shwr rms. Garden. small paddock. About 1.1 acre. Region £325,000 Lane Fox 0962 869999.

NR Dorchester Hardy country unique 3 bed courtyard cottage part of imposing country hse. Ideal retreat. 2 hrs London £99,000 ono. Holcomb 0305 881785 weekdays 0442 62997.

PETERSFIELD Period farmhouse Grade 2, 1 acre, 5 recpns 5 bed 3 bath, open Rural golf course £295K 0730 266726

SELBORNE Near Alton. Last three quality new cottage style 4 bedroomed detached houses remaining. Outstanding specification, energy efficient. Superb location within beautiful historic Hampshire village. Easy access to A3/31. Prices from £145,950. Part exchange available. Admiral Homes open 11-5 Thurs-Mon. 0420 511406

LINCOLNSHIRE

LINCOLNSHIRE WOLDS. A small country estate laying in picturesque locality. Georgian style residence, 5 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, heated indoor swimming pool, fishing lake, woodland, grassland in all about 66 acres. Mawer Mason Bell (0673) 843303.

SCOTLAND

STRONG STONE HOUSE in the attractive highland village of Cromdale, Nairnshire. Sitting-room, kitchen, bathroom, Price £57,500. Mckinnon Hathway, Estate Agents Tel:0699 4567 Fax: 0699 4864.

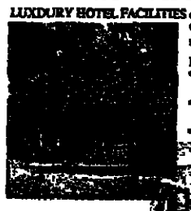
COUNTRY PROPERTY

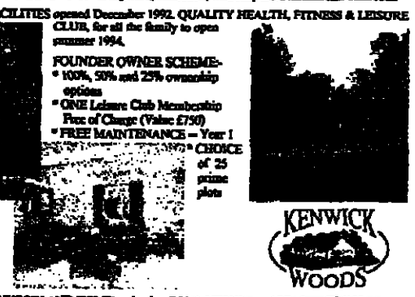
PRESTIGE SECOND HOME WOODLAND DEVELOPMENT

Top quality Norwegian Log Houses in magnificent country park setting overlooking the 18 hole par 72 international standard Golf Course opened in August 1992, WITH IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO THIS MEMBERS ONLY EQUITY PARTICIPATION GOLF CLUB AVAILABLE.

TRADITIONAL SCANDINAVIAN DESIGN to highest specification, with fully fitted kitchen and bathroom.

LUXURY HOTEL FACILITIES opened December 1992. QUALITY HEALTH, FITNESS & LEISURE CLUB, for all the family to open summer 1994.





FOUNDER OWNER SCHEME-
* 100%, 50% and 25% ownership options
* ONE Leisure Club Membership Free of Charge (Value £750)
* FREE MAINTENANCE – Year 1
* CHOICE of 25 prime plots

FROM £49875

KENWICK WOODS

BUY YOUR 'IDYLLIC WOODLAND HOME' and enjoy GOLF, LEISURE and PEACEFUL WOLDS COUNTRYSIDE close to INLAND and COASTAL RESORTS. Tel. (0507) 610161 - Fax. (0507) 610160 or send for brochure to KENWICK WOODS LTD, Kenwick Park Golf Club Plc, Kenwick Park, Louth, Lincs LN11 8NY.

Who should house the homeless?

Government proposals for housing homeless people are meeting opposition, reports **Rachel Kelly**

The homeless lobby is up in arms. In January, the Government *announced a review* of its homelessness legislation in a consultation paper, "Access to local authority and housing association tenancies". A White Paper is due in May and the Bill will be presented to Parliament in November.

From the moment Sir George Young, the housing minister, placed a copy of his *consultation paper in the* Commons library, responses have been pouring into the environment department.

"Government proposals ignore the real problems of homelessness," said the National Federation of Housing Associations. "Government plans to change homelessness legislation are nothing but a con-trick," the Camden Federation of Private Tenants complained. "Doomsday for thousands of homeless," Shelter shouted.

The review has a number of elements. One is to streamline the present system for being housed in either council or housing association property. At the moment, there are two routes. You can qualify as "homeless" by convincing the local authority that you are unintentionally homeless; that you are a priority need, with dependent children, pregnant or vulnerable; and that you are without a roof. If you fail to qualify as "homeless", you can join a council house waiting list. About 1.5 million people are already waiting.

Sir George's scheme is to merge the two entry routes to housing. Under present rules, those who qualify as homeless have priority over those on council house waiting lists.

Famously, Sir George told the Conservative Party conference last October that it was hard to explain to a young couple who are waiting for a home before starting a family "that they cannot be rehoused ahead of the unmarried teenager expecting her first, probably unplanned, child". Research by the Government shows that those entering council housing through the *homelessness route do so* more quickly than those relying on the waiting list.

Unsurprisingly, in some areas, where much of the housing provided by the State goes to the homeless, the best way to get rehoused in a hurry is to make yourself homeless. The system is therefore unfair.

"The current homelessness legislation provides an important safety net for families and vulnerable individuals who find themselves at risk of losing their home. But the homelessness legislation also provides those people, once they are accepted as statutorily homeless, with access to a permanent home ahead of others in as great or greater need who are on the housing waiting list," Sir George says.

His plan is that councils should weigh up the individual needs of all families — be they homeless or on the waiting list. The homeless, once in temporary accommodation, will have to queue alongside those on council waiting lists for permanent accommodation. However, those who have dependent children, are pregnant or vulnerable will still qualify as in "housing need", so the safety net remains, Sir George says.

Although Shelter is up in arms about the loss of rights of the "homeless" as a special category, others have supported this plank of Sir George's proposals. The Council of Mortgage Lenders says: "We *support the princi*ple of reviewing access to social housing and to resolving the tensions between the homelessness channel of access and the waiting list channel."

But other aspects of Sir George's plans are causing more of a hullabaloo. Local authorities will have more powers to refuse to provide accommodation if an applicant has any form of other



JAMES MORGAN

If the Government's proposals become law, David Miller, a former solicitor who lives in sheltered accommodation in Hertfordshire, believes he would suffer

Temporary nightmare

In 1990, David Miller, now 30 years old and single, was working as a solicitor and was living with a friend in Brixton, south London. Later that year, he became mentally ill. After discharge from hospital, he moved houses several times, staying with friends and relatives until the situation became intolerable.

He did not approach his local council, Welwyn Hatfield, because he was unaware he might be eligible for housing. After a brief recovery, he became ill again in 1992, partly as a result of the uncertainty and insecurity of not knowing where he was to live, and was re-admitted to hospital. He was designated by Welwyn Hatfield council as "officially" homeless and in priority need because of vulnerability arising from his illness. He was allocated permanent accommodation in property belonging to Warden housing association in Welwyn Garden City, where he has settled.

Had the new proposals been law, Mr Miller believes the insecurity of having temporary accommodation and seeking a permanent home would have prolonged his illness.

RUTH THOMAS

Sarah would suffer

Sarah is 26. She has two children aged five and three and is expecting her third child in September.

Four weeks ago Sarah, who lives in the North West, became homeless when she had to leave the council house which she had shared with her boy friend after suffering months of domestic violence.

She is unemployed and claiming benefit and is living in temporary accommodation in a refuge. She is waiting for an investigation involving the police, social workers and doctors to be completed before

She was forced to leave after months of severe domestic violence

she can be placed on council housing and housing association waiting lists.

According to her Shelter case worker, Sarah (not her *real name) is likely to remain* in the refuge for four to six months. At present, she is classified as a priority case and will eventually be rehoused in permanent accommodation; if the proposals become law, she will have a right only to temporary accommodation.

Another proposed change will mean that councils are *not obliged to offer emergency* accommodation until investigations are completed. At present, emergency accommodation is provided while the investigations are carried out.

Greater use of private sector accommodation, as suggested in the Green Paper, means that families such as Sarah's could be housed under six-month assured-shorthold contracts. After that, they could be required to move on.

Low expectations of life in the countryside



New rural dwellers may be on low incomes, but they prefer the non-material life

The 1980s yuppie who moved to the countryside complete with mobile phone has become a semi-endangered species. The 1990s newcomer is more likely to be middle-aged and on a low income, according to a remarkable report to be published today by the Rural Development Commission.

The survey — entitled *Lifestyles in Rural England* — was carried out in 1991. It looked at 3,000 households across 12 counties and found that, on average, 5 per cent of rural dwellers had arrived in the past 12 months.

A 1990s migrant is typically prepared to take on a number of low-paid jobs: a farmworker will also be driving lorries and operating machinery on building sites, for example.

Such newcomers are indifferent to the quality of rural services and their expectations of them are low. However, because the income of the newcomer is low, he will soon regret his initial enthusiasm for getting away from it all in an isolated idyll.

This contrasts with the typical yuppie newcomer of popular perception in the 1980s who would arrive complete with hanging baskets and best-kept village competition entry forms.

Paul Milbourne, co-author of the report, says: "This is the first in-depth research on lifestyles in rural England. We don't have any statistics to prove exactly what type of person was moving to the country before our survey of life in 1991 and it's therefore difficult to make comparisons. There is evidence of the yuppie arriving in the country in the 1980s, but it has been mainly anecdotal."

Commenting on the report, Nigel Farndale, environment writer for *Country Life*, says: "The face of the 1990s newcomer is less likely to sport a young, confident, upwardly mobile smile than a middle-aged, stoic, stiff upper lip."

The 1990s migrant is likely to view the countryside through rose-tinted spectacles, Mr Farndale says. "Through these he will view the quality of life in the countryside — being happier, healthier, part of a close-knit community and closer to nature — as adequate compensation for any material hardships he may encounter there."

Dr Milbourne cautioned that the pattern varied regionally. In rural areas close to the large metropolitan centres — including West Sussex, Cheshire, Essex, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire — more than a third of those people moving in had incomes of more than £20,000.

The survey also found that average incomes varied dramatically from county to county, with North Yorkshire, Devon and Northumberland revealed as low-income areas, and Warwickshire, West Sussex and Northamptonshire as affluent areas.

Half of those in rural populations have salaries of less than £8,000, thus destroying the notion that the countryside became more affluent in the 1980s as wealthier people moved in. In fact, up to four in ten country-dwellers are below accepted definitions of poverty. In the poorest areas, the figure is 39 per cent. One household in eight has no car, despite worsening bus services and one in 12 is without a phone. One in 13 homes has a structural defect and one is six does not have central heating.

Yet despite the material disadvantages for those living in the country, almost all said they preferred rural life to the city.

RACHEL KELLY

Fees down if the price is right

FEE-CUTTING among estate agents is operating informally at a local level, often as *part of special spring deals* as the market gears up for Easter, usually its busiest weekend.

Parkers Estate Agent in Lower Earley, near Reading, Berkshire, is offering a flat sole-agency fee of £250 plus VAT, while Roger Platts Estate Agent in Lower Earley is offering a rate of 1 per cent until the end of the month. Nationwide Estate Agent in Wilmslow has been advertising a 1 per cent plus VAT deal. Reeds Rains Estate Agent in Cheshire has been advertising a special offer of ¾ per cent commission for properties in Knutsford. Halifax Property Services, owned by the Halifax building society, is offering a 10 per cent discount on its fees to Halifax customers.

Other agents *The Times* telephoned offered a variety of rates but all were open to negotiation, depending on the property and whether the seller would put up a for-sale board.

Britain is one of the cheapest countries in Europe in which to buy property, according to a Woolwich building society survey.

IN THE MARKET

Dream scene

PROPERTY at the Prince of Wales's dream village will start at £70,000 for a two-bedroom house, estate agents said earlier this month. Residents will be able to move into Poundbury, a £22-million scheme on Duchy of Cornwall land near Dorchester in Dorset from June.

The Prince has been closely involved with all stages of the village design — which will feature residential and retail properties combining Victorian, Gothic and Renaissance styles — since putting forward a blueprint in the late 1980s.

C.G. Fry & Son, the estate agency handling the sales, has had queries about the properties from as far as Canada and Australia. Philip Fry, a spokesman, says: "There has been a good response considering the state of the housing market." The top price for property on sale in phase one of Poundbury is *£145,000 for a four-bedroom* detached house with en-suite bathroom.

The area already has one development with the royal seal of approval — a £10-million Tesco and the Dorchester Town FC stadium, which the Prince helped to design.

On sale again

THOUSANDS of homes in Devon and Cornwall that could not be mortgaged should soon appear on the market again. The homes were blighted when lenders refused to lend against them because they were suspected of being made of the faulty concrete known as "mundic block".

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors yesterday published a technical guide on how to sample, examine and classify locally made concrete, which it says will prove whether a property is sound or not. About 75 per cent of properties are expected to be pronounced sound. The Council of Mortgage Lenders is likely to lift the embargo on lending for homes pronounced sound.

IRELAND

BROOMFIELD HOUSE, ASHFORD, CO. WICKLOW



Period Res, (needing major refurbishment) and c. 75 acres
By Public Auction (Unless previously sold)
On Friday, 22nd April at 3 p.m.
At GRAND HOTEL, WICKLOW
Solrs. Kevans, 34 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2

F.S. Delahunt Ltd.
ASHFORD 010 353 404 40183

WILTSHIRE

NADDER VALLEY Stone & thatch period hse in peaceful rural setting. Sth fcng walled gdn plus orchard. Interestingly extended with studio/library. Tisbury stn 3 miles. £275,000. Woolley & Wallis 0722 321711

YORKSHIRE

NEAR MALTON Grade II Listed house. 3 recs, kit/b'fast, 5 beds, bath/sauna. CH. Ind swimming pool. Outbuildings. Fishing rights. About 13 acres. Strutts Gore York 0904 656894

YORK 7 miles East. Det house on large plot in smaller village with pub & riding stables, river nearby. Six double bedrooms, three bathrooms, many exciting features including sun terrace & 650 sq. ft basement. Nearing completion for buyer to choose internal fittings. £265,000. 0904 413841 anytime.

COUNTRY RENTALS

SAVILLS
TO LET
On beautiful 350 acre private island (tidal road access) 60 miles London. Several apartments and houses in newly restored Edwardian house and Chapel. Gardens, tennis, stables birds, beaches, moorings. Rentals from £350 pcm.
Savills 0245 289 311

BALEARICS

LUXURY HOMES in Mallorca. Luxe 2, 3 & 4 bed villas & bungalows on the unspoilt SE coast of Mallorca. Avail for immediate occupation, from around £87,000. Part-exchanges on your UK property considered. Established British pnc. Call 24 hrs UK hotline for details & brochure: 0932 860707

FRANCE

ALPS Chatel. Immac Top flr apt., fully furn. Magnificent views. 2 beds maxi, 2 car pgn, lge stge, ski locker. Ski lifts 100 yds £66,000. 0582 873148.

COMMERCIAL and Residential props for sale in most areas. Eclipse Overseas 0425 278984.

FRANCE

COTE D'AZUR Luxury villas & apts for sale & rent. Landadowne Int. 081 896 2121

DORDOGNE House and income. Beautifully restored house + guest cottage, barn for conv. to 2nd cottage. 5 acres. Lge pool. £155,000 010-33-53 56 68 44

FRENCH PROPERTY NEWS Monthly, for a free copy. Telephone 081 947 1854.

LIMOUSIN Partially restored farmhouse in quiet village. Good condition, original features, 3 barns and vaulted bakery. Ch, garden and orchard. 350,000 Frs. Tel 010 33 55 89 04 16 evenings.

MERIBEL 2 superior apartments. Excellent location.07931 53211 tel/ 02491 792058 (fax)

PAS-DE-CALAIS Near tunnel/ferry. refurbished well kept 4 bedroom farmhouse, c/h. 1/2 acre of land. £75,000. Tel 071 956 9354 (6 Telson or R Fenwick Elliott).

GREECE

PAROS ISLAND end Pilion New f/h villas & apts. near beach. Trad. local architecture. pan. sea views. quality constr. From £27,000. Tel: 071 811 7158.

ITALY

CAMPODANZO
A restored hamlet of fifteen houses standing within its own forty acre estate with pools and tennis courts. It is in the beautiful Le Marche region near Sarnano in the foothills of the Sibaline Mountains.
For further information and brochure telephone:
031 556 8210.

EXTRAORDINARY
Medieval Castle Tower
with grounds, tranquil village near Spoleto, exceptional views, historic interest, to be restored.
£155,000.
010 39 743 254063.

TUSCANY INSIDE OUT Best selection of properties in all Tuscany. Contact Diana Moore Licensed Agent. Tel/Fax 0010 39 5789 26 86 67/26 66 02

SPAIN

COSTA BLANCA - For full colour brochure on our range of new and re-sale Apartments, Villas, Finca and Bungalows in Moraira and Torrevieja. Write/Tel OMH 71 Yockley Close Chamberlayne Surrey CI5 1QQ 0276-676281 now!

COSTA BLANCA. Villas, apts & land. All prices. Rollable. Sea Jay Properties. 0737 226459.

COTTAGES & farmhouses in non tourist area of Pyrenees. B & V Overseas 0444 412551

LaSELLA Golf complex, luxury 1 bed apt, fully furnished, pool, etc, £27,950. 0622 757788.

U.S.A.

CANADA Whole 30 acre island for sale in rocky mountains, British Columbia. Over 1 mile of shore, part treed. 1st offer over £18,000 secures. 0706 623305 or fax: 0706 624409.

TIMESHARE

TIMESHARE Resale RCI Red time. Two bed luxury villa sleeps 6 Puerto Del Carmen Award of Discretion, resort. Offers over £1,500 per week. Eng Tel 061 748 0625

RENTALS

A.M.A. INTERNATIONAL Luxury flats for long, short or holiday lets. Mayfair, Marble Arch and Hyde Park. 071 724 4844

ACADEMICS Short/long lets in C/N London. Sabbatical Homes. Tel/Fax 081 740 9663

ACCOMMODATION to let in Hampstead/St Johns Wood. Phylrene Ens. 071-431 2435

AMERICAN/European corporate employees seek quality homes SW1/3/5/7/10 Cabban & Gascoe 071 589 5481.

ARE YOU A visitor or resident in London? Central Estates have numerous flats & houses avail from £260pw 071 224 5773

BALHAM bright spacious 3 bed house. Fully furn. CH2, conv, nr tube £190pw. 081 675 8568.

BARBICAN EC2. 36th floor, panoramic views. 3 beds, 2 baths, 2 large recep. 24hr porter. £560 pw. 071 622 0479.

BARBICAN - Spac & cons 3 bd 2 bth flt (1 exc dec order £300pw Copping Joyce 071 379 6300

BAYSWATER Bright lrg 2 dbl bd flt new refurb expansive recep nr tube £280pw 071 836 1183

BELGRAVIA Newly refurbished 2 bed 2 bth mews hse 2 recepts pkg £550pw 071 226 1333

BELGRAVIA Immac 2 bed 1 bath 3rd floor flat lux portered blk garage £500pw 071 630 1472

BLOOMSBURY - Set of newly refurb 1 bd flts f/f £220pw Copping Joyce 071 379 6300

BLOOMS/Cov Garden Luxz 2 bed flt porter mins tube f furn & equip £290pw 071 379 4816

BRAND NEW St. John's Wd mews hse 2 bed 2 bth elegant recep flt kit pch gge furn/unf £290pw 081 963 8911

CHELSEA SW3 Superb lux det flat lrg dbl recep rm lrg dining rm 3 dbl bedrms 3 bathrms cloak rm f/f kit unfurnished excellent security private garage £850pw Call Clare 071 225 0102

CHELSEA Superb flat o'looking River 3 dbl bedrms 2 bathrms lrg rec rm bale ex cond £550pw Call Diana on 071 225 0102

CHELSEA SW3 Superb int des 1 bedrm flat 1 min Sloane Sq. tube £330pw Call Thomas on 071 225 0102

CHELSEA Nr Sloane Sq. Small house, 3 bed, 2 bath, gge, gdn. £550 pw.071 622 0479.

CORNWALL GARDENS Immaculate executive 2 bed flat, full ceilings £400pw 071 581 1631

COURTFIELD GARDENS Spacious bright 3 bedroomed flat £535pw 071 581 1631

DELAUNCEY STREET NW1 1 bed garden flat £150pw Crawford Lettings 071 722 0023

ECCLESTON SW1 Prestigious studio apt one of Square & tennis crts £200pw 071 976 8385

FLATS Urgently required for Japanese Executives in W8, SW3, SW7 & NW8 071 437 9168 or 081 950 5291 !

GREEN ST, MAYFAIR Directly op to gardens, superb large 5 bed maisonette. £800 pw. Herne & Son 071-499 9344

RENTALS

Stern studios SMALL FLATS AND FLATSHARES
URGENTLY WANTED!
071 244 7301.

F.W.GAPP
We offer a personal and professional service to Landlords and Tenants in all aspects of the Lettings market and should be delighted to hear from you.
ARLA MEMBER
The Property Managers
071-243 0964

GODDARD & SMITH
FLATS TO LET
Aldersgate Court, Barbicanew Close, EC1. Studios from £90 per week, 1 bed flats from £150 per week, furnished/unfurnished.
CONTACT GLEN COOK
GODDARD & SMITH
071 930 7321

HENRY & JAMES Contact us now on 071-235 8851 for the best selection of furnished flats and houses to rent in Belgravia, Knightsbridge and Chelsea.

HOLLAND PARK Excellent condition flat 2 bedrms 2 bathrms good size reception rm £285pw Call Thomas on 071 225 0102

HYDE PARK W2 Albion St. 4 bed f/f hse 2 rec 2 bth, WT. £450pw. 071-495 5859/6001

HYDE PARK Superb 2 bed mews house with s/pool & roof terrace £700pw 071 722 5022

ISLINGTON N1 Spacious well-furn flat in quiet gdn sq 1 dbl bed, lge sitting rm, bath and kit. all mod cons, c/h, n/s please avail now. 1 yr let. £650pcm. 071 6072089 eves

KENSINGTON W8 Magnificent large flat 3 dbl bedrms lrg dbl recep rm susny f/f kit porter blk & garage ex condition £700pw Call Diana on 071 226 0102

KENSINGTON SW7 Large & beautiful flat 2 bedrms 2 bathrms dbl recep rm 1 min Sth Ken tube pood cond £250pw Call Thomas on 071 225 0102

KENSINGTON SW7 Superb fam hse in pretty gdn sq 4 bedrms dbl rec rm lrg gdn £1,200pw Call Diana 071 225 0102

KENSINGTON 4 & 5 bed flat 2/3 rec 2/3 bth £525/746pw. Tel: 071-495 5889/6001

KENSINGTON Bright immac 2 dbl bed en-suite bathroom £325pw B.R.L. 071 581 9449

KENSINGTON Lux 2 bed flat 2 baths bright & spacious 5 mins Park £400pw 071 722 5022

KENSINGTON W8. 1 bed lux flat grnd floor, f/f, all mod cons, gdn £185 pw. 081 514 1003

KNIGHTSBRIDGE opp Harrods, prestige, newly decorated 2 bed flat, bath, rec, kitchen, portered, balcony. £395 pw. 081 748 2299 or 0831 419941.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Superb int des hse 3 bedrms 3 bathrms creep dining rm lrg f/f kit terrace patio excel cond £900pw Call Clare 071 225 0102

KNIGHTSBRIDGE/ Mayfair Lux f/f 1,2,3 bed flats available now fr £280pw 071 355 1186

KNIGHTSBRIDGE 3 bed f/f 2 rec 2 bth patio flat. £450pw. 071-495 5859/6001

LITTLE VENICE W9. Spacious lux 2 bed flt, 1 en suite fitage lounge/ dining rm, FF kit, priv garden and parking. F/Furn. £275pw Tel 0707 663110

MARYLEBONE Large double bed flat o/looking garden square. furn/unfurn £200 pw, also spacious 3 double bed maisonette, 2 large recep, 2 baths, furn / unfurn £425pw. 0993 891017

MAYFAIR W1. Lux 2 bed flat in fully serviced block in Hill St. F/furnished and equipped. £450pw. Tel 071 243 1336

MAYFAIR/Kensington, 2 & 3 bed luxury flats avail immed f/f from £300pw 071 355 1186

MONTAGU SQ. W1 3rd flr period flt lift Cons 1 bed gdn sq use and views gd storage w/m £230pw Globe 071 935 9812

MONTAGU SQUARE W1 Lux 2 bd 2 bth flat £450pw Crawford Lettings 071 722 0023

MUSWELL HILL N10 Lux 5 bed house £280pw Crawford Lettings 071 722 0023

NOTTING HILL Vast 1 bed flat mod furn wood floors hi ceilings galleried recep comms gdn nr tube £278pw 071 221 2461

NOTTING HILL Gate W10. fully furnished, very spacious, 1 bed flat, £170pw. 081 960 6713

PRIMROSE HILL 1 bed flat lge bright archt. refurb, sep dining, bath, power shower, F/Furn. £250 pw. 071 722 4875.

PRINCES GATE MEWS SW7 Attrac newly dec unfurn mews hse situated in quiet loc close to Hyde Park & Sth Kensington entrance hall recep/dining f/f kit 3 bedrms 2 bathrms en suite wc shower rm utility rm garage roof terrace long let £600pw Friend & Falcke 071 225 0814

PUTNEY SW15 Property urgently required for commercial & professionals Centre Management 081 780 2257

PUTNEY V lux flt, n/s, prof pers. Nr BR & tube, £368 pcm. 071 836 3093 or 081 968 4360

RICHMOND Very spacious 1st flr 2 bed flat in p/b block, part furn. Lovely views with gdn to river, tennis court, unrestricted parking. Close to Richmond stn £230 pw No agencies. 071-785 7882 (w) 071-727 3750 (h)

S. KENSINGTON SW7 Small, pretty 2 bedroom mews house £300 pw. 071 581 2692.

SEYMOUR STREET W1 Lux 2 bed flat £365pw Crawford Lettings 071 722 0023

SLOANE SQUARE SW1. Furnished studio flat for single occup. In well maintained block, with kit and bath, flt, caretaker and entry phone. 1 year let £120 per week. 071 730 6420 Ref CA

SOUTH KENSINGTON Newly dec & furn 2 dbl bed flat in portered blk £350pw Centre Management 081 780 2257

SW15 3 bed f2 dbl & 1 sngl flat near to River £250pw Cooney Duffy 081 785 2229

SW3 Egerton Gardens 2 dbl bds recep f/f kit bth £275pw Marveen Smith 081 748 4411

SW1 ST. JAMES'S 1 bed luxury flat avail 2 April £350pcm to include h/w long let preferred 0929 564 280

SW1 Westminster Vincent Sq Light 3 bed flat 2 recpns suit 3 pnrs £300 pw 072 683 2441

W8. Lux family hse fully furn 6 beds, 3 baths, gdn, close tubes, £650 pw, Tel: 071 603 0464

WAPPING Superb 2 Bed flat with garage overlooking Tobacco Dock. £185pw Ofi 788 9011 or 081 947 0696.

WARWICK AVENUE W9 Lux 3 bed house £320pw Crawford Lettings 071 722 0023

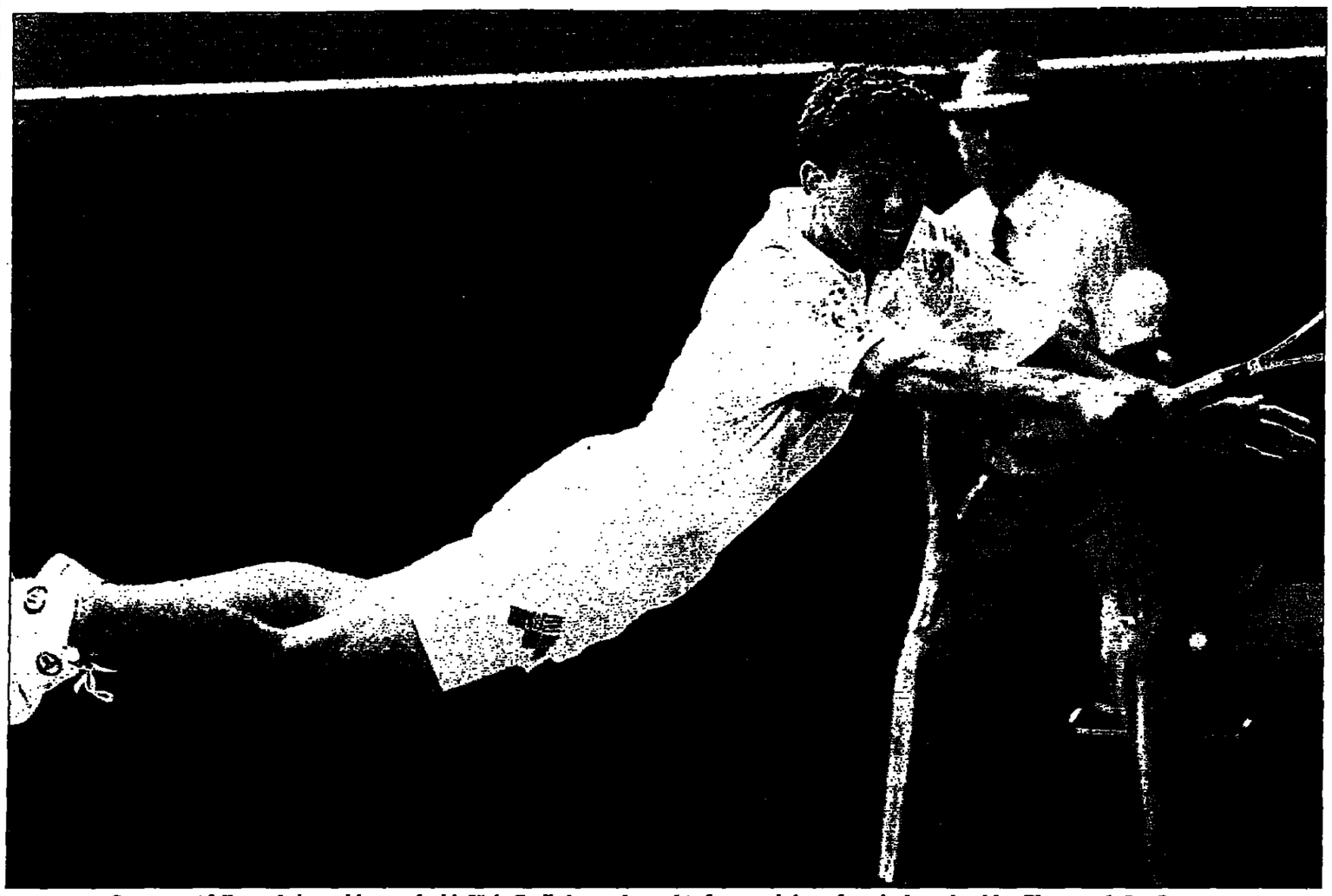
W2 1/2 bd apts in heart Cov. Gdn, int des lift vid/entry f/f kits/baths. £280-£425 p.w. Farrar & Co Tel: 071 370 4329

WOODSTOCK MEWS W1 Lux 3 bed house £450pw Crawford Lettings 071 722 0023

FLATS TO LET

CLAPHAM. Superb 2 bed, crn trally heated, f/f flat, overlooking common, in period house. £700pcm 081 894 5248.

Prize that is stuff of sporting legend



Sampras, at full stretch, is reaching out for his Holy Grail, the much sought-after grand slam of tennis championships. Photograph: Ian Stewart



SIMON BARNES
Midweek View

Perhaps the point of Holy Grails is not the finding but the searching: not the succeeding but the failing. We have just seen another of sport's quests for one its many, if I can use the plural without blasphemy. Holy Grails, come unstuck in the most spectacular way.

Manchester United's Grail was the treble — the winning of league, FA Cup and League Cup (jazzed-up sponsored names are out of place when considering Holy Grails). As recently as the end of February, few people were asking *if* they would find their Grail — it was when, how easily and how majestically.

But from the lofty heights of February, they suffered vertigo: fear undid them. Sunday's League Cup final was their chance to break the chains of doubt. Instead, they were out-thought and outfought and, as a bonus, they suffered their fourth sending-off in four matches.

They might yet rescue their season. They might win one or other of the two trophies left: they might "only" do the double. Certainly, this would be very commendable, but it has been done before. Such an achievment would only be very good indeed. It would not make them a team for all seasons, a team that left an achievment to last, in memories and, when these faded, in record books, forever. It would not be the finding of The Grail.

It is right and satisfying that sport should have these Grails; it is right that teams and individuals should devote their sporting lives to their search. Perhaps it is is also right that their goals should be ultimately unattainable.

There are Grails in many sports, achievements that are so colossal and so immense that you can spend a lifetime in their search, fail and still be one of the finest athletes ever to play your game.

Perhaps the best kind of Grails are those that have never been found. The domestic football treble is one of these. Another is the winning of four golfing majors in a calendar year. Yet another is the Test match batting average of 100.

Yet this brings us to another aspect of the Grail Legend — the heroes of Grail mythology. The deed that has never been done has one kind of allure, but the deed that has been done once, and once only, by some *nonpareil* of the past, about whom memories are dusty and blurred — that too exerts a powerful hold on sporting minds. As the years pass and their deeds remain unmatched, so their achievements rise higher in the memory, dig their way deeper into sport's mythology.

If nobody has achieved a batting average of 100, there remains an achievment perhaps more glorious, a cause less insolent, more human, than three shameless figures. This is Don Bradman's average of 99.94. Perhaps it is that decimal-pointed figure, calculated to one hundredth of a run, that is the true Grail of batsmanship, for, with Bradman, the impossible Grail becomes not the set of figures, but the emulation of the man.

At the moment, sport gives us two men in pursuit of such Grails of emulation. One is that almost Faustian figure of Ayrton Senna. Perhaps he has got his legends in a twist, but it is perfectly clear that Senna's — dream is far too weak a word, perhaps we get a little closer with a term like monomaniacal craving — is to find his sport's Grail, to emulate and to surpass Juan Manuel Fangio, who won five Formula One world championships.

Senna has three. On Sunday, the day United crashed out up in pursuit of the treble, Senna spun off the track in pursuit of Schumacher and his personal quadruple. Nevertheless, he remains the hot, if not incandescent, favourite for his fourth title this year.

The second Grail-seeker is Pete Sampras, in hot, if not incandescent pursuit of tennis's grand slam. He is one tournament away from the simultaneous possession of all four grand slam titles. To be perfect, a true Grail, a true grand slam needs to be done in a single calendar year, but Sampras is within sight of a colossal achievment.

He pursues the *nonpareil* Rod Laver, who is the only male player of the professional era to to do a grand slam. Laver, Fangio, Bradman — in such company, every else one in sport is cricking a neck up at Himalayan peaks.

Sampras and Senna dare to attempt such heights. So did Manchester United. But, if I too may get my mythogies in a twist, United have learned, as Sampras and Senna may yet learn, that sport is a juggernaut, a colossal vehicle that stops rolling for no sporting person, and that time and time again, too-fervent worshippers come too close, slip and are crushed to powder beneath its relentlessly turning wheels.

England bronze double a fitting reward

By Richard Eaton

ENGLAND had to settle for two bronze medals and their pride after a fine performance against Sweden, the world champions, at the European table tennis championships at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham yesterday.

The England men scored a fine victory in the semi-finals in a match that lasted three hours, while four of the five encounters went the distance, including a brilliant win for Matthew Syed, the Oxford University student, over Peter Karlsson, the European No 4.

Syed saved a match point at 19-20 in the second game and was constantly on the move as Karlsson tried to break down his defences. Rarely did Syed try to counter-attack as his variation and mobility increasingly induced mistakes.

Syed benefited from a net-cord winner to reach 19-17 in the final game before Karlsson's last smash took a net cord and went off. With the odds stacked against defenders in the modern game, Syed's 7-21, 24-22, 21-18 victory was received with great enthusiasm.

Had Chen, the England No 1, won the opening encounter, the pressure would have been on the title-holders. But the Swedes caused a surprise by picking Thomas von Scheele, the European No 45, at No 3 instead of Erik Lindh, the former European top 12 champion.

Von Scheele was able to attack the former World Cup winner's service, one of the best in the game, to score a 14-21, 21-18, 21-18 win.

Sweden's leader was Jan-Ove Waldner, the Olympic champion. He conserved his energy and timed his bursts to perfection with silky top-spin containment and slick counter-attacks to beat both Carl Prean and Chen, and was also the master in the doubles. Sweden now play France, who scored an unexpected 4-3 win over Germany.

The England women, who had beaten Hungary on Saturday, yesterday lost to them 4-0 to take the bronze, representing a substantial improvement over the past two years. It also provided a satisfactory finish for Jill Hammersley-Parker, the coach, who was in charge of her last European Championships.

Hammersley-Parker won the European singles title in 1976, and bows out with England's women a force in Europe for the first time since her retirement 12 years ago.

McLaren given no joy in bid for Herbert

By Oliver Holt

THE fortunes of McLaren, already at a low ebb after the failure of both Mika Hakkinen and Martin Brundle to finish the Brazilian Grand Prix on Sunday, were dealt another blow yesterday when Peter Collins, the managing director of Lotus, told Ron Dennis, his McLaren counterpart: "I will not sell you Johnny Herbert at any price."

Dennis, who has approached several drivers in his quest to replace Ayrton Senna, invited Herbert to the team's Woking factory earlier this year and subsequently made Lotus an offer that Collins rejected. After failing to lure Alain Prost out of retirement, Dennis signed Brundle six days before qualifying began in São Paulo.

Despite Brundle nursing the Peugeot-powered car into a potential points-winning position before mechanical failure and the crashed Benetton of Jos Verstappen ended his race, Herbert is still coveted by Jean-Pierre Jabouille, the Peugeot racing director, and Phillip Morris, the chief McLaren sponsor.

But Collins, who has been angered by the effect Dennis's interest has had on Herbert, said any new approach would be rebuffed. He described the initial offer, thought to be $1 million, as "an insult and not one I would have made to any other team for a worthwhile driver".

"If it had been ten times the amount offered, it might have been getting there," Collins said. "There was a time when an appropriate approach may have encouraged us to release Johnny, but that time has now passed. Ron Dennis had a window of opportunity and he missed it. Whatever problems he has with drivers are of no interest to me.

"There was a good deal of scurrilous rumour in Brazil about the state of our finances and us not being in the business much longer. You can guess where they came from. But if he has decided to employ alternative tactics to force us to sell Johnny, he has picked the wrong team. We will not be bullied."

Dennis recently blamed Collins for making the approach to Herbert public knowledge, and said he would not become involved in a slanging match with Lotus. But he admitted ten days ago that there might be a "variation" on his driver line-up for the Pacific Grand Prix in Aida, Japan, on April 17.

TV companies begin scrummage to screen rugby

John Goodbody on why television executives are keen to spend millions on exclusive rights to the five nations' championship

RUGBY union is on the brink of a financial bonanza from television this week as the BBC, ITV and Sky bid for the rights to screen the five nations' championship in the British Isles.

In 1991, the BBC paid £10 million for a three-year contract. This time, the cost for screening the championship for the next three years is at least £20 million and may be considerably more.

Until the 1990s, the BBC had traditionally screened international games. However, ITV won the contract for the 1991 World Cup and gained plaudits for its coverage. ITV has also shown several foreign tours and has secured the £10 million contract for the 1995 World Cup, scheduled for South Africa.

In 1994, for the first time, the four Home Unions have received detailed professional advice on the ancillary rights and it is the negotiations over these finer points that is delaying any immediate decision.

The BBC is keen to get the contract. The increased coverage of domestic club matches and announcement that viewers voted for England as the "1993 BBC Team of the Year" have not been disadvantageous in negotiations with the rugby authorities.

However, ITV needs the contract even more. Almost all the big sporting events on terrestrial television are screened exclusively by BBC: the Summer and Winter Olympic Games, world athletics championships, Commonwealth Games, Wimbledon, the Open Championship, the FA Cup, coverage of the FA Carling Premiership, home Test matches, and the Grand National. However, Sky Sport has increasingly become an important factor with its showing of events like live Premiership matches and the Test series in the West Indies. ITV will share the 1994 football World Cup with BBC. However, in the past, when they have both screened the same game, the BBC has got two-thirds of the viewers.

Rugby union may seem a curious sport for ITV to be bidding so much money. The five nations' championship matches, which go out on only five Saturday afternoons in the year, attract solid but unspectacular figures. Just over six million people usually watch the matches. Even the England versus Wales match at Twickenham, 11 days ago, which was the climax of the international season, only drew an average of 6.7 million, which is unlikely to be among the compiled list of 25 highest viewing figures for 1994.

It is true that Saturday afternoon is not peak-viewing time but Sunday at 5pm, a regular slot for *Rugby Special*, is an excellent moment to attract people in the winter. However, unless the BBC shows a film of the previous day's international, the figures for club rugby games remain small, barely more than one million. Frequently, *Ski Sunday*, which precedes *Rugby Special*, will draw more than two million people, despite the absence of any Britons challenging for victories on the World Cup circuit.

ITV believes that it can provide a livelier presentation than *Rugby Special* and increase the viewing figures. The regions have also agreed that it will show a similar programme every weekend of the season. The home unions see a weekly programme like this as an excellent advertisement for the sport.

But why are the ITV regions so committed to rugby union, when they know they could pull in many more viewers early on a Sunday evening with other programmes?

The reason, is not the number of viewers, but who those viewers are. People, who watch rugby union, are the kind of people in whom advertisers are interested. The sport has an affluent, upper-class profile, which is why it can attract sponsors. ITV knows how easily it will sell advertising during internationals and any weekly club rugby programme.

ITV will not only restore some credibility in television sport from landing the rugby union contract, it will also have its own financial bonanza through selling advertising.

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort		Weather (5pm) °C	Last snow
ANDORRA								
Soldeu	55	150	fair	spring	slush	sun	5	26/3
Typical spring conditions for good skiing								
AUSTRIA								
Obergurgl	30	110	good	varied	slush	cloud	6	28/3
Fresh overnight snowfall improving conditions								
Schladming	0	80	slush	varied	closed	rain	20	27/3
Wet snow discouraging all but the keenest skier								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	85	300	fair	spring	slush	fine	2	25/3
Superb morning skiing on Chateau Noir								
Avoriaz	130	170	soft	heavy	wet	sun	7	26/3
Still plenty of snow, if a little soft								
Chamonix	10	385	fair	heavy	poor	cloud	9	26/3
South-facing slopes slushy by midday								
Isola	40	100	spring	soft	spring	sun	8	1/3
Some bare patches on south-facing slopes								
Tignes	50	130	good	varied	slush	sun	0	26/3
Excellent piste conditions on Grande Motte								
ITALY								
Livigno	30	120	fair	spring	open	cloud	1	4/3
North-facing slopes remain reasonable								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	10	100	fair	varied	closed	fine	10	26/3
Some great early skiing on Plaine Morte								
Grindelwald	0	80	fair	heavy	closed	fine	15	26/3
Fresh weekend snow allowing good am skiing								
Wengen	0	60	wom	varied	closed	fine	11	26/3
Good early morning piste skiing possible								
Zermatt	10	130	good	varied	poor	fine	12	25/3
Great skiing continues in warm weather								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

Little pleasure for power brokers

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

MEMBERS of the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB), whose annual council meeting ended in London yesterday, will have derived little pleasure from these past few days. As the World Cup organisers never cease to remind them, the 1995 tournament in South Africa is ultimately their responsibility, so violence in the heart of Johannesburg strikes also at the heart of international rugby union.

The council's business included a report from the South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu), whose newly elected president, Louis Luyt, was attending his first IRFB meeting. England's concern at the deteriorating situation before the elections next month is greater than most: this weekend their selectors will finalise the tour party to play eight matches in South Africa in May and June, a tour it has been estimated will cost the Sarfu 13m rand (£2.6 million) if it is cancelled.

The board has considered the framework of all international tours over the past week, and the problems of the amateur regulations and disciplinary proceedings: "Unless we agree on our regulations, laws and bylaws, unless we live by them, we will descend into chaos," Keith Rowlands, the IRFB secretary, said earlier this month.

"I'm a strong advocate of abiding by the law and, if it is not right, the constitutional means exist to change it. The challenge for sports administrators in the future is to keep their game out of the civil courts, which is why we are looking at the citing procedure and the drug-testing process."

Unfortunately, the IRFB in recent years has not been strong on uniformity, hence the suspicions of each country on matters of rewards for players. As Bob Dwyer, Australia's articulate coach, said in Hong Kong at the weekend: "The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence. We've always considered the English were getting it in bucketfuls and we were doing it tough. The English think it's the other way round.

"I think the progress on amateurism is pretty good. But people will always want more. I think we're moving towards a situation where international players get paid a hell of a lot of money."

For the moment Dwyer will be happy with the likely rescission of the controversial element in the ruck-maul law that permits the turnover at subsequent scrums. Australia, in a U-turn which has been made only in the past three months, seek to award the scrum to the side moving forward before the stoppage, as was the case before the summer of 1992.

"I think it would make everyone associated with the actual playing side of the game a lot happier," Dwyer said. He has the backing, too, of his opposite number in New Zealand, Laurie Mains.

"Unfortunately, that particular law has turned out to be a bit of a leveller," Dwyer added. "England, for example, were playing all over Wales and won 15-8 whereas under the old law they might have won 20-0. All the other laws have really achieved something. For me, ratification of the Australian proposal would be a huge benefit from this board meeting."



Dwyer: articulate

Tour route should suit Boardman

By Peter Bryan

CHRIS Boardman could be wearing the race leader's yellow jersey during this year's Kellogg's Tour of Britain, which starts in Glasgow on August 8. His French team, Gan, is among those already to have confirmed their entry for the 480-mile race, to which 17 six-man squads have been invited.

The race organisers, Sport for Television, had Boardman's time-trial skills in mind when planning the route, including a 12km ride against the clock at Bolton at the opening of the third day's racing, which will favour the Olympic pursuit champion. Later in the day, the race moves to Liverpool — Boardman's home area — for a one-hour city centre event.

Phil Anderson, of Australia, who leads the Motorola team and won the tour in 1991 and again last year, will defend his title.

The route promises a mixture of suffering and scenery, the former from a liberal inclusion of hills — one of which, Mow Cop, on the borders of Staffordshire and Cheshire, is a testing one in four gradient on the third day, which some riders may prefer to walk.

The final day's 90-mile run from Nottingham to Manchester will take in Rowsley Bar (at 26 miles) and the Cat and Fiddle (52 miles) before ending with three laps of a circuit based on Deansgate.

The tour, which is now in its eighth year, will have daily coverage on Channel 4 and its result will count towards world rankings.

ROUTE: Stage 1 (Monday, August 8): Circuit of Glasgow (125 miles). Stage 2 (August 9): Carlisle to Blackpool (109 miles). Stage 3A (August 9): individual time trial, Bolton (12 km). Stage 3B: Liverpool city centre race, one hour. Stage 4 (August 11): Chester to Leicester (124 miles). Stage 5 (August 12): Nottingham to Manchester (90 miles).

Answers from page 48

DESIPIENT

(a) Foolish, silly, playing the fool, idly trifling, from the past participle of the Latin *desipere* to be void of understanding, *sapere* to know: "How splendid that you are sending your daughters to us, Lady Bevan. The school cherishes these traditional family links. And tell me — dare we hope that they will be as desipient as you were when you were at dear old St Ethelburga's?"

ELEPHANTRY

(c) Troops mounted on elephants, from *elephant* by analogy with *cavalry*: "That is to say, elephantry, cavalry, and infantry. Before we took the Field, we demolished our Elephantry."

THANATOPHIDIA

(a) A division of *Ophidia*, comprising the venomous snakes, from the Greek *thanatos* death + *ophidia* snakes, serpents and creepy-crawly creatures: "I believe it to be a generally accepted opinion among thanatophidiologists that, from what is known of the virulent properties of snake-poison, though fatal to man and other living beings, it is innoxious in its effects to serpents of like nature."

UMBRATILOUS

(c) Shadowy, unreal, faint, adaptation of the Latin *umbrātilis*, *umbra* a shade or shadow: "The handling of Final Causes in the Physiques hath given men occasion to rest satisfied in such specious and umbratilous Causes."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qa2! Rxa2 2 Bxc4+ and 3 Bxa2.

A game of imagination for cricket-lovers

Put your selection talents to the test

THE start of the cricket season is two weeks away and *The Times*, in association with Canon UK Ltd, has joined the Test and County Cricket Board in an exclusive arrangement to produce a game that will keep armchair cricket-lovers happy throughout the season. Play *The Times* First Class XI, and you can use your skills as a cricket selector to win a trip for two to any Test match anywhere in the world next year.

Every run your players make and every wicket they take will count towards your score. Choose your players from the list on the right and use the First Class XI bat to record your selection. You can enter by post or by telephone. There are no artificial additives, no handicaps, no ratings, no transfer fees, just a test of cricketing knowledge and selection skill. Pick your team, and follow your players' progress in *The Times*, the paper for cricket.

How to play: Pick the team that you think will accumulate the most runs and wickets in the first-class cricket season. We have listed 269 players, all registered with the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), and placed them in the following categories:

Batsmen (numbered 001-113); **all-rounders** (114-156); **wicketkeepers** (157-176) and **bowlers** (177-269).

There are also three secondary categories: **Captains** (18), one from each county; **overseas players** (18), one from each county and **rising stars** (28), promising players as selected by *The Times*.

Your team of 11 must be made up as follows: **five batsmen; one all-rounder; one wicketkeeper; four bowlers.** No other combination will be accepted and players may only be selected as categorised by *The Times*. (For example, Graeme Hick may only be chosen as an all-rounder, not as a batsman). Each player has a number which must be used when selecting him for the game.

There are three further restrictions to your selection.

1) In your XI, you must pick one — *and no more than one* — from the list of **captains**. For example, if you pick Alec Stewart (captain of Surrey), he will count as captain and batsman. You may not pick another captain, even from another playing category.

2) You must also pick one — *and no more than one* — of the players listed in the **overseas player** category.

3) You must pick one — *and no more than one* — of the players in the **rising stars** category. Your rising star may be a batsman, all-rounder, wicketkeeper or bowler.

In addition to the 11 players picked for the team, you must select one reserve for each of the primary categories (batsmen, all-rounders, wicketkeeper, bowlers). No captains, overseas players or rising stars may be selected as reserves. These reserves will only become active in the event of a first-choice player being officially declared inactive (for reasons of injury) for the rest of the season by *The Times* First Class XI panel. In that case your reserve will be automatically activated and his score from that moment will be added to the injured player's total. Only one replacement will be allowed in each of the four primary categories. A player declared inactive cannot re-enter the game. Having selected your team, you may give it a name.

How to score: Scores will be measured by the following means: **runs** (the aggregate runs scored by all 11 players); **wickets** (the wickets taken by all 11 players); **wicketkeeping dismissals** (catches and stumpings made by your wicketkeeper).

Each run will count as one point, each wicket as 20 points, each wicketkeeper's dismissal as 20 points (the last two categories will be listed under the heading, wickets). The total of runs and wickets will represent the entrant's total team score. The object of *The Times* First Class XI is to select the 11 players that will accumulate the most points.

In the event of a tie, competitors will be separated by counting the score of their reserves, the highest total winning. If that is insufficient, the score of the rising star will be decisive. If a further tie-break is necessary, the final tied competitors will be asked to pick their player of the season and explain why.

All matches deemed to be first-class by the TCCB (five, four or three days) will count, including Cornhill Insurance Test matches, Britannic Assurance county championship, University matches and Tetley Bitter Challenge (county matches v touring team matches). One-day matches will not count. At the end of each round of matches and each competition period, *The Times* will publish the list of categorised names and their updated aggregate point scores.

How to enter: There are five separate competitions. First, the main competition which runs throughout the 1994 English cricket season and for which entries must be received no later than April 13. Then there are four short competitions covering the matches which take place between **April 13-May 23; May 24-June 27; June 29-August 8; August 10-September 19.**

Entries for the main competition (which may be made by post or by telephone) will also qualify automatically for all four short competitions. Entry details for the individual short competitions (numbers two, three and four) will be published later.

The winners will be the entrants who have the highest points scores after the last match in each competition period and their names will be published in *The Times* with the names and scores of the leading 100 entrants.

You may enter any of the competitions as many times as you like but each entry requires a separate telephone call or original entry form (photocopies will not be accepted). Telephone callers must be aged 18 or over.

Entries, whether made by telephone or mail, will be acknowledged by letter including a computer printout of your team selection and an official scorecard. Please allow *28 days for delivery*.

Entering by telephone: The 24-hour telephone lines are open now and close at noon on April 13. When you have selected your team, check what type of telephone you are using. You must have a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) to enter. You **cannot** enter using a rotary dial or "pulse" telephone. Once you have found a Touch-tone telephone, you can enter by dialling **0891 500 181**.

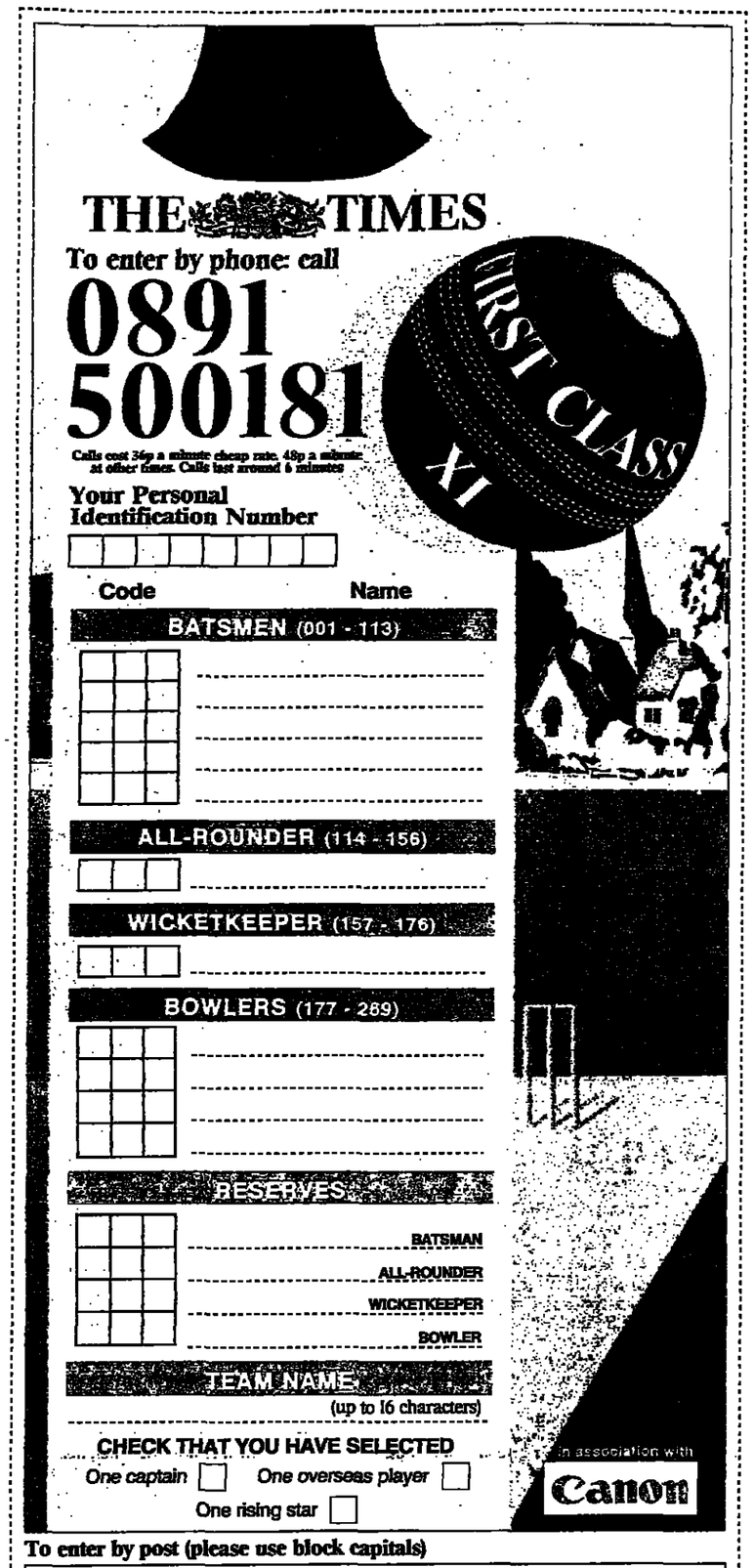
Then just follow the simple step-by-step instructions. Listen carefully and take your time. The recorded message will ask you to key in the full set of selections (player reference numbers) for each of your 11 chosen players in the following order: the five batsmen, the all-rounder, the wicketkeeper, the bowlers. You will then be asked to name your reserves (in the same order). Make sure that the numbers *you give fall within the range* for each category (ie batsmen, 001-113; all-rounders, 114-156; wicketkeepers, 157-176; bowlers 177-269). Make sure you have picked one captain, one overseas player and one rising star in your team. An incorrect entry will be void.

You will then be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) and to record your name, address and daytime phone number. Finally, you will be given an eight-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN).

Entering by post: Each postal application must be made on an original entry form (no photocopies) and accompanied by two first-class stamps (which will be used to acknowledge entry). Send them to ***The Times* First Class XI, 4a Church Green, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 2TP.** Entries must arrive by noon on April 13.

Team names: Competitors may give their teams any *name of up to 16 characters* although if a name is considered to be in poor taste by the panel, or if that name has already been taken, the competitor's surname will be used instead.

***The Times* First Class XI panel**: Ray Illingworth, the new chairman of selectors, Michael Atherton, the England captain, and Alan Lee, the cricket correspondent of *The Times*, form the panel which has final authority on any issues arising.



To enter by post (please use block capitals)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

AGE IF UNDER 18 ..... TELEPHONE No. .....

Send your entries to: Times First Class XI
4A Church Green, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 2TP. Entries must be accompanied by two first class stamps

THE FIRST CLASS XI PLAYERS

Batsmen (001-113)

Pick five players and a reserve from this category

001 ..... * C J Adams (Derbyshire)
002 ..... J C Adams (Nottinghamshire)
003 ..... G F Archer (Nottinghamshire)
004 ..... Asif Din (Warwickshire)
005 ..... M A Atherton (Lancashire)
006 ..... C W J Athey (Sussex)
007 ..... R J Bailey (Northamptonshire)
008 ..... K J BARNETT (Derbyshire)
009 ..... M R BENSON (Kent)
010 ..... D J Bicknell (Surrey)
011 ..... T J Boon (Leicestershire)
012 ..... P D Bowler (Derbyshire)
013 ..... N E BRIERS (Leicestershire)
014 ..... B C Broad (Gloucestershire)
015 ..... A D Brown (Surrey)
016 ..... D Byas (Yorkshire)
017 ..... J D Carr (Middlesex)
018 ..... P A Cottey (Glamorgan)
019 ..... G R Cowdrey (Kent)
020 ..... R M F Cox (Hampshire)
021 ..... J P Crawley (Lancashire)
022 ..... M A Crawley (Nottinghamshire)
023 ..... T S CURTIS (Worcestershire)
024 ..... * J A Daley (Durham)
025 ..... * W A Dessaur (Nottinghamshire)
026 ..... D B D'Oliveira (Worcestershire)
027 ..... N H Fairbrother (Lancashire)
028 ..... N A Felton (Northamptonshire)
029 ..... N A Folland (Somerset)
030 ..... A Fordham (Northamptonshire)
031 ..... G Fowler (Durham)
032 ..... * J E R Gallian (Lancashire)
033 ..... M W GATTING (Middlesex)
034 ..... G A GOOCH (Essex)
035 ..... P Grayson (Yorkshire)
036 ..... K Greenfield (Sussex)
037 ..... J W Hall (Sussex)
038 ..... T H C Hancock (Gloucestershire)
039 ..... R J Harden (Somerset)
040 ..... A N HAYHURST (Somerset)
041 ..... D L Haynes (Middlesex)
042 ..... * D L Hemp (Glamorgan)
043 ..... S G Hinks (Gloucestershire)
044 ..... G D Hodgson (Gloucestershire)
045 ..... * A J Hollioake (Surrey)
046 ..... N Hussain (Essex)
047 ..... * S Hutton (Durham)
048 ..... R C Irani (Essex)
049 ..... S P James (Glamorgan)
050 ..... P Johnson (Nottinghamshire)
051 ..... M Keech (Hampshire)
052 ..... S A Kellett (Yorkshire)
053 ..... N V Knight (Essex)
054 ..... A J LAMB (Northamptonshire)
055 ..... M N Lathwell (Somerset)
056 ..... W Larkins (Durham)
057 ..... D A Leatherdale (Worcestershire)
058 ..... N J Lenham (Sussex)
059 ..... J J B Lewis (Essex)
060 ..... * N J Llong (Kent)
061 ..... G D Lloyd (Lancashire)
062 ..... J I Longley (Durham)
063 ..... M B Loye (Northamptonshire)
064 ..... M A Lynch (Surrey)
065 ..... M P Maynard (Glamorgan)
066 ..... A A Metcalfe (Yorkshire)
067 ..... T C Middleton (Hampshire)
068 ..... A J Moles (Warwickshire)
069 ..... T M Moody (Worcestershire)
070 ..... H MORRIS (Glamorgan)
071 ..... J E Morris (Durham)
072 ..... R S M Morris (Hampshire)
073 ..... M D MOXON (Yorkshire)
074 ..... M C J NICHOLAS (Hampshire)
075 ..... T J G O'Gorman (Derbyshire)
076 ..... D P Ostler (Warwickshire)
077 ..... * T L Penney (Warwickshire)
078 ..... P R Pollard (Nottinghamshire)
079 ..... P J Prichard (Essex)
080 ..... M R Ramprakash (Middlesex)
081 ..... J D Ratcliffe (Warwickshire)
082 ..... R B Richardson (Yorkshire)
083 ..... * D D J Robinson (Essex)
084 ..... P E Robinson (Leicestershire)
085 ..... R T ROBINSON (Nottinghamshire)
086 ..... A S Rollins (Derbyshire)
087 ..... M A Roseberry (Middlesex)
088 ..... A C H Seymour (Worcestershire)
089 ..... N Shahid (Essex)
090 ..... * B F Smith (Leicestershire)
091 ..... I Smith (Durham)
092 ..... R A Smith (Hampshire)
093 ..... N J Speak (Lancashire)
094 ..... A W Smith (Surrey)
095 ..... D M Smith (Sussex)
096 ..... M P Speight (Sussex)
097 ..... A J STEWART (Surrey)
098 ..... N R Taylor (Kent)
099 ..... V P Terry (Hampshire)
100 ..... G P Thorpe (Surrey)
101 ..... S P Titchard (Lancashire)
102 ..... * M E Trescothick (Somerset)
103 ..... R G Twose (Warwickshire)
104 ..... * M P Vaughan (Yorkshire)
105 ..... D M Ward (Surrey)
106 ..... T R Ward (Kent)
107 ..... R J Warren (Northamptonshire)
108 ..... A P WELLS (Sussex)
109 ..... C M Wells (Derbyshire)
110 ..... * W P C Weston (Worcestershire)
111 ..... J J Whitaker (Leicestershire)
112 ..... * M G N Windows (Gloucestershire)
113 ..... A J Wright (Gloucestershire)

All-rounders (114-156)

Pick one player and a reserve from this category

114 ..... M W Alleyne (Gloucestershire)
115 ..... I D Austin (Lancashire)
116 ..... P BAINBRIDGE (Durham)
117 ..... D J Capel (Northamptonshire)
118 ..... * G Chapple (Lancashire)
119 ..... D G Cork (Derbyshire)
120 ..... R D B Croft (Glamorgan)
121 ..... A C Cummins (Durham)
122 ..... K M Curran (Northamptonshire)
123 ..... A Dale (Glamorgan)
124 ..... P A J DeFreitas (Derbyshire)
125 ..... J E Emburey (Middlesex)
126 ..... K P Evans (Nottinghamshire)
127 ..... M A Feltham (Middlesex)
128 ..... M V Fleming (Kent)
129 ..... P J Hartley (Yorkshire)
130 ..... * G R Haynes (Worcestershire)
131 ..... G A Hick (Worcestershire)
132 ..... C L Hooper (Kent)
133 ..... R K Illingworth (Worcestershire)
134 ..... K D James (Hampshire)
135 ..... S R Lampitt (Worcestershire)
136 ..... R P Lefebvre (Glamorgan)
137 ..... C C Lewis (Nottinghamshire)
138 ..... G W Mike (Nottinghamshire)
139 ..... Mushtaq Ahmed (Somerset)
140 ..... P J Newport (Worcestershire)
141 ..... C Penn (Kent)
142 ..... M Prabhakar (Warwickshire)
143 ..... D A REEVE (Warwickshire)
144 ..... G D Rose (Somerset)
145 ..... P V Simmons (Leicestershire)
146 ..... N M K Smith (Warwickshire)
147 ..... P A Smith (Warwickshire)
148 ..... * J N Snape (Northamptonshire)
149 ..... F D Stephenson (Sussex)
150 ..... J P Stephenson (Essex)
151 ..... C M Tolley (Worcestershire)
152 ..... Wasim Akram (Lancashire)
153 ..... M WATKINSON (Lancashire)
154 ..... V J Wells (Leicestershire)
155 ..... * P N Weekes (Middlesex)
156 ..... C White (Yorkshire)

Wicketkeepers (157-176)

Pick one player and a reserve from this category

157 ..... A N Aymes (Hampshire)
158 ..... R J Blakey (Yorkshire)
159 ..... K R Brown (Middlesex)
160 ..... N D Burns (Somerset)
161 ..... B N French (Nottinghamshire)
162 ..... M A Garnham (Essex)
163 ..... W K Hegg (Lancashire)
164 ..... G J Kersey (Surrey)
165 ..... K M Krikken (Derbyshire)
166 ..... S A Marsh (Kent)
167 ..... C P Metson (Glamorgan)
168 ..... P Moores (Sussex)
169 ..... P A Neale (Leicestershire)
170 ..... K J Piper (Warwickshire)
171 ..... S J Rhodes (Worcestershire)
172 ..... D Ripley (Northamptonshire)
173 ..... * R J Rollins (Essex)
174 ..... R C Russell (Gloucestershire)
175 ..... C W Scott (Durham)
176 ..... R J Turner (Somerset)

Bowlers (177-269)

Pick four players and a reserve from this category

177 ..... J A Afford (Nottinghamshire)
178 ..... C E L Ambrose (Northamptonshire)
179 ..... S J W Andrew (Essex)
180 ..... A M Babington (Gloucestershire)
181 ..... M C J Ball (Gloucestershire)
182 ..... A A Barnett (Lancashire)
183 ..... S R Barwick (Glamorgan)
184 ..... S Bastien (Glamorgan)
185 ..... * J D Batty (Yorkshire)
186 ..... J E Benjamin (Surrey)
187 ..... W K M Benjamin (Hampshire)
188 ..... P J Berry (Durham)
189 ..... M P Bicknell (Surrey)
190 ..... I R Bishop (Derbyshire)
191 ..... J Boiling (Surrey)
192 ..... M Broadhurst (Yorkshire)
193 ..... S J E Brown (Durham)
194 ..... M A Butcher (Surrey)
195 ..... A R Caddick (Somerset)
196 ..... J H Childs (Essex)
197 ..... C A Connor (Hampshire)
198 ..... N G B Cook (Northamptonshire)
199 ..... K E Cooper (Gloucestershire)
200 ..... A C Cottam (Northamptonshire)
201 ..... N G Cowans (Hampshire)
202 ..... R P Davis (Warwickshire)
203 ..... M A Ealham (Kent)
204 ..... R M Ellison (Kent)
205 ..... M G Field-Buss (Nottinghamshire)
206 ..... * D P J Flint (Hampshire)
207 ..... M J Foster (Yorkshire)
208 ..... A R C Fraser (Middlesex)
209 ..... O D Gibson (Glamorgan)
210 ..... * E S H Giddins (Sussex)
211 ..... D Gough (Yorkshire)
212 ..... D A Graveney (Durham)
213 ..... F A Griffith (Derbyshire)
214 ..... D W Headley (Kent)
215 ..... E E Hemmings (Sussex)
216 ..... A P Igglesden (Kent)
217 ..... M C Ilott (Essex)
218 ..... P W Jarvis (Sussex)
219 ..... M Jean-Jacques (Hampshire)
220 ..... * R L Johnson (Middlesex)
221 ..... M S Kasprowicz (Essex)
222 ..... N M Kendrick (Surrey)
223 ..... * D R Law (Sussex)
225 ..... M J McCague (Kent)
226 ..... D E Malcolm (Derbyshire)
227 ..... N A Mallender (Somerset)
228 ..... P J Martin (Lancashire)
229 ..... R J Maru (Hampshire)
230 ..... D J Millns (Leicestershire)
231 ..... O H Mortensen (Derbyshire)
232 ..... A D Mullally (Leicestershire)
233 ..... T A Munton (Warwickshire)
234 ..... A J Murphy (Surrey)
235 ..... J A North (Sussex)
236 ..... G J Parsons (Leicestershire)
237 ..... M M Patel (Kent)
238 ..... R M Pearson (Essex)
239 ..... A L Penberthy (Northamptonshire)
240 ..... * D B Pennett (Nottinghamshire)
241 ..... R A Pick (Nottinghamshire)
242 ..... A C S Pigott (Surrey)
243 ..... * A R K Pierson (Leicestershire)
244 ..... N V Radford (Worcestershire)
245 ..... A R Roberts (Northamptonshire)
246 ..... M A Robinson (Yorkshire)
247 ..... I D K Salisbury (Sussex)
248 ..... K J Shine (Middlesex)
249 ..... R W Sladdin (Derbyshire)
250 ..... G C Small (Warwickshire)
251 ..... D J Spencer (Kent)
252 ..... R D Stemp (Yorkshire)
253 ..... P M Such (Essex)
254 ..... J P Taylor (Northamptonshire)
255 ..... * S D Thomas (Glamorgan)
256 ..... M J Thursfield (Hampshire)
257 ..... T D Topley (Essex)
258 ..... H R J Trump (Somerset)
259 ..... P C R Tufnell (Middlesex)
260 ..... S D Udal (Hampshire)
261 ..... M J Vandrau (Derbyshire)
262 ..... A P Van Troost (Somerset)
263 ..... C A WALSH (Gloucestershire)
264 ..... Waqar Younis (Surrey)
265 ..... A E Warner (Derbyshire)
266 ..... S L Watkin (Glamorgan)
267 ..... N F Williams (Middlesex)
268 ..... J Wood (Durham)
269 ..... G Yates (Lancashire)

CAPITALS denote captains — Bold type denotes overseas players — * denotes rising stars

PICK ONE FROM EACH OF THESE CATEGORIES

Captains

118: P Bainbridge (all-rounder)
008: K J Barnett (batsman)
009: M R Benson (batsman)
013: N E Briers (batsman)
023: T S Curtis (batsman)
033: M W Gatting (batsman)
034: G A Gooch (batsman)
040: A N Hayhurst (batsman)
054: A J Lamb (batsman)
070: H Morris (batsman)
073: M D Moxon (batsman)
074: M C J Nicholas (batsman)
143: D A Reeve (all-rounder)
085: R T Robinson (batsman)
097: A J Stewart (batsman)
263: C A Walsh (bowler, o'seas player)
153: M Watkinson (all-rounder)
108: A P Wells (batsman)

Overseas players

002: J C Adams (batsman)
178: C E L Ambrose (bowler)
187: W K M Benjamin (bowler)
190: I R Bishop (bowler)
121: A C Cummins (all-rounder)
209: O D Gibson (bowler)
041: D L Haynes (batsman)
132: C L Hooper (all-rounder)
221: M S Kasprowicz (bowler)
069: T M Moody (batsman)
139: Mushtaq Ahmed (all-rounder)
142: M Prabhakar (all-rounder)
082: R B Richardson (batsman)
145: P V Simmons (all-rounder)
149: F D Stephenson (all-rounder)
263: C A Walsh (bowler, captain)
264: Waqar Younis (bowler)
152: Wasim Akram (all-rounder)

Rising stars

001: C J Adams (batsman)
185: J D Batty (bowler)
118: G Chapple (all-rounder)
024: J A Daley (batsman)
025: W A Dessaur (batsman)
206: D P J Flint (bowler)
032: J E R Gallian (batsman)
210: E S H Giddins (bowler)
130: G R Haynes (all-rounder)
042: D L Hemp (batsman)
045: A J Hollioake (batsman)
047: S Hutton (batsman)
220: R L Johnson (bowler)
223: D R Law (bowler)
060: N J Llong (batsman)
240: D B Pennett (bowler)
077: T L Penney (batsman)
243: A R K Pierson (bowler)
083: D D J Robinson (batsman)
173: R J Rollins (wicketkeeper)
090: B F Smith (batsman)
148: J N Snape (all-rounder)
255: S D Thomas (bowler)
102: M Trescothick (batsman)
104: M P Vaughan (batsman)
155: P N Weekes (all-rounder)
110: W P C Weston (batsman)
112: M G N Windows (batsman)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Only applications made through The Times First Class XI telephone lines or on the official entry form will be accepted and must be received by the closing date.

2. They must be received by noon on Wednesday, April 13, 1994. There is no limit to the number of telephone applications any person or household may make. The 24-hour lines are open now.

3. Only players published in our The Times First Class XI list will be accepted into our First Class XI competition. Incorrect entries null and void with no refund. No correspondence related to players selected will be entered into. Entries lost or found to be indecipherable will be void.

4. Entries must consist of 15 players (11 first choice and four reserves) from the published list and must include one captain, one overseas player and one rising star as categorised in the list. Of your 11, five must be batsmen, one an all-rounder, one a wicketkeeper and four bowlers. One each of the four reserves must be a batsmen, all-rounder, wicketkeeper and bowler. None of the reserves may be captains, overseas players or rising stars. No player can be picked twice.

5. *The Times* independent panel of experts will provide updated records of each player's performance on a regular basis.

6. Inaudible or incomplete applications will not be accepted. The computer's record of the entry will be considered to be the entry.

7. The telephone entry method is only open to readers over the age of 18.

8. The first prize will go to the team with the highest total score. If there is more than one entrant with the same total of points, the winner will be decided by tie-break. We will investigate complaints but our decision is final and we will not enter into correspondence regarding the competition.

9. Promotional and explanatory copy relating to The Times First Class XI form part of the terms and conditions for participation.

10. Calls charged at 36p per minute cheap rate and 48p per minute at other times. From March 31 calls will be charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at other times.

11. Calls should take approximately six minutes.

12. The competition is not open to employees of News International or their agents.

The infocheck Group

Software suppliers for the First Class XI game

See the Test of your choice

BY SIMON WILDE

THE *Times* First Class XI is open to competitors aged under 18, but only by post. Entrants who identify themselves as representing schools will also be eligible for an additional schools competition. The 12 leading teams at the end of the season in this competition will win for their schools Kwik Cricket sets. Please enter the name of the school after your own name on the entry form.

For the overall winner of the First Class XI game, the selection process will not stop with picking his or her successful team. The first prize provides the opportunity to take a trip for two to any Test match anywhere in the world during 1995, including air tickets, hotel accommodation and match tickets.

It will not be an easy choice to make with some outstanding cricket fixtures in some of the world's most exotic locations. Several of them, moreover, involve England. The prize presents the opportunity to travel to such places as Australia or New Zealand, the Caribbean or South Africa.

When the year begins, England will be in Australia attempting to recapture the Ashes they lost in 1989. New Year's Day sees the start of the third Test match in Sydney, and England will subsequently play Tests in Adelaide (January 26-30) and Perth (February 3-7). For 11 weeks from October, England will be overseas again, making their first Test tour of South Africa for over 20 years.

In the Caribbean, Australia will be attempting once again to topple West Indies. When the countries last met in a Test series, in Australia in 1992-93, the hosts went within two runs of becoming the first team to inflict a series defeat on West Indies since 1980, and uncompromising contests are assured in Jamaica, Guyana, Trinidad, Barbados and Antigua.

A thrilling series is also in prospect in England, where West Indies will be making a full tour during the domestic season.

Twenty-five runners-up to the overall winner will receive bats, provided by the Morrant Group, autographed by the England and South Africa players, along with other England merchandise. The winners of the three short-term games will each receive a Phillips CDI player.

TEST MATCH TICKETS BOOK NOW
THE CORNHILL INSURANCE TEST MATCH SERIES
ENGLAND v NEW ZEALAND
ASK ABOUT THE RAINCHECK SCHEME
1ST TEST THURS 2 – MON 6 JUNE Inc. Sunday play TRENT BRIDGE PHONE 0602 817005
2ND TEST THURS 16 – MON 20 JUNE Inc. Sunday play LORD'S* PHONE 071 289 8979
3RD TEST THU 30 JUNE – TUE 5 JULY Rest day Sunday OLD TRAFFORD PHONE 061 848 7021
TCCB
*Postal applications at Lord's available now. Credit card bookings from the 21st April at Lord's.
TICKETMASTER
24hr HOTLINE 071-413 1413

Australia draw on Waugh's defiance

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN DURBAN

THE third Test match between South Africa and Australia ended tamely here yesterday evening, a draw having become more or less inevitable by mid-afternoon. When the bell tolled, Australia were 144 runs ahead with six second-innings wickets still in hand, and Mark Waugh and Allan Border had been batting together for 58 overs.

So, after six Test matches spread over three months, honours are even — two wins for each side and two draws. South Africa's next Test will be at Lord's in July, Australia's in Pakistan in October, probably, but not yet certainly, without Allan Border.

If Border has already made up his mind on that, he is not saying so, though he will need to let the Australian selectors know before May 11 when they choose their side to go to Pakistan. His opposite number in the series just finished, Kepler Wessels, thinks that Border may well go on.

"The thought of walking out for the last time crossed my mind," Border said, before expressing disappointment at the way what may be his last Test was played. "Both teams were very tentative, for whatever reason, maybe because of the importance of the game."

Border paid tribute to the South Africans, particularly to the consistency of their bowling. With the three Test matches between England and South Africa this summer being played at Lord's, Headingley and the Oval, all pitches that should suit the South African attack, the Australia captain said, when pressed, that he fancies South Africa to win.

Border's 265th Test innings — more innings, by the way, than either Bill Ponsford or Bill Woodfull played in the whole of their first-class careers — was one of his most stubborn. He came to the wicket 35 minutes before lunch with Australia only four runs in front and four wickets already down. But Mark Waugh, with his reputation more in the balance than it should be, considering his enormous talent, was already applying himself with great determination. Quite soon the well nigh faultless hundred which he made — his sixth in 57 Test innings — was foreshadowed.

South Africa had disposed of Warne, Australia's nightwatchman, in the seventh over of the morning and Slater in the twentieth. Slater got the sort of leg-before decision that the Australians might have viewed with mistrust rather than resignation had it been given by the same umpire, Mehboob Shah, in a Test between Australia and Pakistan in Faisalabad. The ball looked to be missing the leg stump — but Mehboob's neutrality was above suspicion. That is the benefit of the international panel.

This was bad luck on Slater, who was within five runs of becoming the sixth Australian to score a hundred in a Test match at Durban. He would have joined Macartney, Chipperfield, Fingleton, McCabe and Neil Harvey, who was at the match. It used to be the custom at Kingsmead for those who made Test hundreds there to plant a tree in recognition. Now, sadly, the trees that were planted are under concrete and the custom is no more, though it would be nice to renew it. The last Englishman to plant one was Ken Barrington; the one before that was Doug Insole.

This was the third time in his brief Test career that Slater had been out in the nineties. But he plays in the nineties as he does at any other time — always looking to put the bowler to the sword. That is why he is so dangerous, and South Africa must have been especially pleased to see him go. But it was the last success they were to have.

The new ball came and went; perhaps ten times between lunch and tea the bat was beaten, and Gary Kirsten bowled three overs of off breaks as a reminder of what was missing. Were there but world enough and time, it might have made a good timeless Test.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First innings 269 (S R Waugh 64, I A Healy 55, C R Matthews 4 for 66)

Second Innings

M J Slater lbw b Donald	95
M A Taylor lbw b de Villiers	12
D C Boon c P Kirsten b Donald	12
S K Warne c McMillan b Donald	12
M E Waugh not out	113
A R Border not out	42
Extras (lb 6, w 1, nb 4)	11
Total (4 wkts)	297

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-55, 2-81, 3-109, 4-157

BOWLING: Donald 26-7-66-3; de Villiers 24-5-69-1; McMillan 22-6-53-0; Matthews 28-12-56-0; Cronje 18-5-40-0; G Kirsten 3-1-7-0; Rhodes 1-1-0-0.

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 422 (B M McMillan 84, J N Rhodes 78, A C Hudson 65, D J Richardson 59; Warne 4 for 82).

Result: Match drawn.

First Test (Johannesburg): South Africa won by 169 runs. Second Test (Cape Town): Australia won by nine wickets.



Border: stubborn

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Smith, right, meets up with Akinwande for the announcement of their forthcoming bout at York Hall

Smith undergoes thorough medical

BY SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

JAMES "Bonecrusher" Smith arrived in London yesterday for his bout with Henry Akinwande next Tuesday at York Hall, Bethnal Green, in good time to be given a thorough medical examination by the British Boxing Board of Control, which wishes to be assured about his fitness, especially after the collapse of Michael Bentt following his bout with Herbie Hide 11 days ago.

"I brought Smith in early because I knew the board wanted to have a good look at him and it will also give me time to find another opponent if he failed the medical," Mickey Duff, the promoter, said. Smith, who will be 41 two days after the bout and has lost the last two of his 53 contests in a 13-year career, has been given an MRI brain scan by a leading British neurologist and the results of the medical will be known tomorrow.

"I am confident from all that I've heard from the States that all will be fine," John Morris, the board's secretary, said. "The concern of the board isn't in any way to the discredit of James Smith. He is a very well-known heavyweight but we have to see how he is now."

Smith will be best remembered as the man who nearly ruined Frank Bruno's career ten years ago by knocking him out in the tenth round. This time, Duff is certain nothing will go wrong and Akinwande will further his career at the expense of the former world champion.

In spite of the poor performance put up recently by visiting heavyweights — Jesse Ferguson against Bruno and Bentt against Hide — Duff is certain Smith will give a good account of himself. "The first thing he asked when he got here was if I would represent him if he won and get him a fight with Lennox Lewis," Duff said.

Smith appeared to be in good shape physically and mentally. He weighs 250lb, just 2lb more than his weight for his second professional bout in 1981. Smith, who is a business graduate, has a security and insurance business in North Carolina. However, he admits that he makes more money from boxing and intends to carry on as long as he is paid well for it.

Secrecy surrounds Norman hearing

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE British Athletic Federation (BAF) disciplinary hearing into the conduct of Andy Norman takes place in London today but the outcome is not likely to be known for another week. Norman, the BAF promotions director, is under investigation after a telephone call to Cliff Temple, the journalist and coach who committed suicide in January.

The BAF declined to confirm yesterday that the hearing is today. "On strong legal advice, we are not announcing the date, time and venue," Tony Ward, the BAF spokesman, said. However, as journalists have been called to give evidence, word has spread that the hearing is today. What remains unconfirmed is whether Norman, who allegedly accused Temple of sexually harassing an athlete, will appear. "The announcement of the verdict will be late next week," Ward added.

Disciplinary proceedings were initiated by the BAF on February 4, with a view to a hearing by early March. However, the hearing was delayed when Norman presented a sick note four weeks ago. The BAF's solicitors have been taking statements from some journalists who have reported, or have had reported, their alleged first-hand experiences of Norman's behaviour in connection with Temple. Some of these are likely to be challenged by Norman's legal representatives today.

Norman, in the first year of a three-year contract, is under investigation not only with regard to the Temple incident but also for other aspects of his professional behaviour. The BAF has to decide whether his conduct was becoming of an employee. Any settlement would have to take into account not only his £65,000-a-year salary but any restriction on his activities as a BAF authorised agent.

The first meeting of the Kent County Athletic Association committee, of which Temple was a former member, since Thurrock Harriers circulated a letter canvassing support for Norman was held on Monday. It decided not to respond "for the time being".

Daphne Reed, the Kent AA president, said: "We felt there was little action we could take before the BAF acted."

ENZA set to shatter record by four days

ROBIN Knox-Johnston and Peter Blake, co-skippers of the record-chasing catamaran, *ENZA New Zealand*, are within 1,000 miles of the Ushant finish line marking the end of their non-stop circumnavigation.

Knox-Johnston reported that the favourable gale-force winds expected today should carry them across the finish early on Friday and complete the 27,000-mile voyage four days inside the 79-day record. *ENZA*'s eight-man crew covered 323 miles yesterday and opened up a further 200-mile lead over their French rivals on *Lyonnaise des Eaux-Dumez*, skippered by Olivier de Kersauson, which was struggling to make headway in light airs close to the Azores.

The dispirited French crew, who set out from Ushant at the same time as ENZA and shadowed the 92ft British-built catamaran throughout the voyage, are more than 900 miles behind, but still have a chance to break the record set last winter by Bruno Peyron's *Commodore Explorer*.

Five sets for women

TENNIS: The women's singles final at the 1995 Australian Open will be the best of five sets, the first of the four grand slam tournaments to use such a format. The Virginia Slims Championship is the only women's tournament to feature a best-of-five final. "We are very proud to be at the vanguard of change," Geoff Pollard, the president of Tennis Australia, said yesterday. "Given the athleticism and professionalism of the elite women players, the time is right."

☐ Boris Becker, the third seed, tumbled out of the Osaka Salem open at the first hurdle yesterday, going down to Robbie Weiss, of the United States, in three sets.

Injury blow for Back

RUGBY UNION: Neil Back, the Leicester and England flanker, is likely to miss the rest of the season because of a broken thumb. The injury is a massive blow to the club's hopes of winning the Courage League and Pilkington Cup double, but Tony Russ, the director of rugby, said: "We have to take it in our stride and get on with the job." Back broke the thumb during the victory at Harlequins last weekend. Russ said he was hopeful Back would be fit to play if Leicester reached the cup final on May 7. They play at Orrell in a cup semi-final on Saturday.

England A take charge

HOCKEY: England A registered two victories in the British Universities Sports Federation women's championship in Glasgow yesterday. They beat England B 6-0 with two goals from their captain, Tamara Strong, while Hayley Rodger scored both goals in a 2-0 win over Wales. England, the champions, are two points adrift in second place. They have a game in hand but an inferior goal difference. They outplayed Northern Ireland in their only game but had to settle for a 2-0 triumph. In the men's tournament, Craig Watkins's goal enabled Scotland to beat England 1-0.

Davies world No 1

GOLF: Laura Davies, from Surrey, has reached the No 1 position on the women's world rankings, the first time a non-American has claimed the position since the rankings started last year. Davies moved from fifth to first with a victory and a second in her last two tournaments on the US Women's Tour. She also heads the US women's money-list with $218,220, after taking $65,000 (about £43,000) for her second place in the Nabisco Dinah Shore, the women's equaivalent of the Masters, in California on Sunday. Trish Johnson, England's next best performer, ranked tenth.

McMain steps forward

RUGBY UNION: Shaun McMain, the North division prop forward, will make his debut for Yorkshire when they meet Durham in the CIS County Championship final on April 16 at Twickenham.

YORKSHIRE: D Breakwell (Leeds); J Eagle (Leeds), B Barley (Sandal, captain), S Bumhill (Cleckheaton), C Thornton (Leeds); K Plant (Rotherham), G Easterby (Harrogate); R Szabo (Wakefield), R Whyley (Harrogate), S McMain (Sheffield), I Carroll (Otley), C Raducanu (Bradford and Bingley), C West (Rotherham), N Hargreaves (Leeds), C Vyvyan (Wharfedale). Replacements: N Heseltine (Wharfedale), J Grayshon (Morley), A Turton (Sandal), G Throup (Morley), P Wright (Middlesbrough), P Taylor (Harrogate).

Germans take title

BRIDGE: Sabine Zenkel and Georg Nippgen, of Germany, scored a clear victory in the European league's leading event for male-female partnerships, the Philip Morris pairs championship, in Barcelona (Albert Dormer writes). Kurt and Andrea Feichtinger, of Austria, came second with Alain Levy and Daniele Allouche-Gaviard, of France, third. Only five of the 34 British pairs reached the 100-pair final with Rita Oldroyd and Stuart Davies best placed in twelfth. The event was notable for the eclipse of the eastern Europeans.

THE TIMES SPORTS SERVICE

FOOTBALL

Scores from the Premiership
Call 0839 555 562

Scores from the Endsleigh and Scottish leagues
Call 0839 555 512

RACING

Commentary
Call 0891 500 123

Results
Call 0891 100 123

CRICKET

Score from the third Test match in Port of Spain
Call 0839 555 510

Calls cost 36p per min cheap rate, 48p per min at other times

THE TIMES

SNOW SERVICE

USA	0839 400 471
SWITZ	0839 400 472
AUSTRIA	0839 400 473
FRANCE	0839 400 474
ITALY	0839 400 475
OTHER EURO	0839 400 476

Calls cost 36p (cheap) 48p (other times) per minute

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana 126 LA Clippers 93; Seattle 111 Denver 97.

BOWLS

CHURCH GRESLEY: National mixed fours: Quarter-finals: Isis 15 Barwell 13; Cambridge Pk 20 Moonfleet 2; Teignbridge 18 Wey Valley 14; Sunderland 15 Pinewood Pk 7. Semi-finals: Sunderland 19 Teignbridge 7; Cambridge Pk 14 Isis 12. Final: Sunderland 18 Cambridge Pk 14.

EGHAM: Egham Trophy (national mixed inter-club championship): Semi-finals: Rugby Thornfield 102 Athenley 79; South Forest 94 Tilbury 78. Final: South Forest 99 Rugby Thornfield 70.

CRICKET

SYDNEY: Sheffield Shield: Final: Tasmania 255 and 126 (P Alley 5-24; N Maxwell 4-50); New South Wales 442 (B McNamara 128, M Bevan 113). NSW won by innings and 61 runs.

ETON FIVES

HARROW SCHOOL: Preparatory schools: Final: Sunningdale (O Broome and W Sorrell) bt Highgate (D and J Stewart) 6-12, 12-3, 12-6.

FOOTBALL

JAPANESE LEAGUE: Shimizu S-P 2 Vardy Kawasaki 1; Sanfrecce Hiroshima 4 Bellmare Hiratsuka 2; Kashima A 3 JEF Ichihara 2 (aet); Jubilo Iwata 3 Yokohama M 2; Yokohama F 3 Gamba Osaka 1; Nagoya Grampus 7 Urawa Reds 2.

DURHAM: English schools' festival: Gosport and Fareham 0 Newcastle 2, Gravesham 6 E Northumberland 2; Chester-le-Street 0 Bishop Auckland 2; Carlisle 2 Darwen/Bolton 2; Allerdale 1 Darlington 3; Luton 3 Hartlepool 5; Peterborough 2 Gateshead 2

Late results on Monday

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Sheffield United 3 West Ham United 2.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea 2 Ipswich 1. Second division: Birmingham 9 Cheltenham 1. Cup: Plymouth 2 Bournemouth 0.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Newcastle 0 Leicester 1. Second division: Manchester C 1 Stoke 1; Oldham 2 Burnley 0; Rotherham 1 Bradford C 1.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chelmsford 4 Bashley 0.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridlington 1 Accrington 1; Droylsden 3 Hyde 3. First division: Guiseley 2 Harrogate 0.

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Rushp Manor 2 Purfleet 3.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Sheffield 1 Liversedge 3.

HOCKEY

GLASGOW: British universities tournament: Women (at Helensvale): England A 3 N Ireland 1, Scotland 5 England B 1.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Montreal 3 Ottawa 2; Florida 4 Dallas 5; Vancouver 3 Toronto 2 (OT).

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: British public schools' doubles championship: Seniors: Semi-finals: Haileybury (R Walker, D Cruikshanks) bt Charterhouse (T Drayson, B Cox) 15-2, 15-4, 15-3, 15-4; Rugby (C Robards, R Carter) bt Tonbridge (C Charlton, C Walsh) 8-15, 15-2, 15-12, 11-15, 15-12, 15-6. Final: Rugby bt Haileybury 15-7, 7-15, 2-15, 15-3, 18-13, 15-2. Colts: Semi-finals: Eton (N Bailey, P Wigan) bt Winchester (E Craig, H Lloyd Owen) 15-11, 15-3, 15-10, 8-15, 15-1; Malvern (A Falconer, M Hardingeal) bt Tonbridge (J Pyemont, N Finlay) 15-10, 8-15, 2-15, 15-9, 15-10, 16-17, 15-8. Final: Eton bt Malvern 15-6, 15-8, 15-5, 15-12.

RIFLE SHOOTING

ALDERSLEY: English air gun championships: Rifles: Men: 1, N Wallace 690.4pts. 2, C Hector 682.3, 3, J Ward 677.3. Women: 1, K Morton 472.4, 2, L Bryce 464.1; 3, L Minett 462.0. Pistol: Men: 1, S Haynes 676.5, 2, A Wilkins 674.3; 3, M Gault 672.0. Women: 1, C Page 478.3; 2, W Haynes 472.6; 3, J Haigh 470.2.

BISLEY: NRA Champion of Champions: London and SE heat: 1, J Peachey (Old Johnians) 148.23pts; 2, P Byeshe (S London) 145.24.

DORTMUND: Westphalia rifle meeting: 50m prone: A Abzeher (Westphalia) 589pts.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Glamorgan Wanderers 15 Glamorgan County 26. Cancelled: Pontypridd v Abertillery.

TABLE TENNIS

BIRMINGHAM: European championships: Men: Category one: Group A: Belgium 4 Czech Republic 2. Leading final placings: 1, Sweden; 2, Germany. Group B: Russia 4 Austria 3; Hungary 4 Greece 3. Leading final placings: 1, France; 2, England. Play-offs: 19th/20th places: Croatia 4 Finland 0. 21st/22nd: Belarus 4 Bulgaria 1. 23rd/24th: Spain 4 Ireland 1 (Spain names first): V Sánchez bt G Boyle 21-8, 21-15; J Sevilla lost to C Stevin 19-21, 10-21; D Torres bt A Dennison 16-21, 21-11, 21-12; Sánchez and Torres bt Stevin and Dennison 21-17, 21-10; Sánchez bt Stevin 21-18, 21-16. 25th/26th: Israel 4 Ukraine 3. 27th/28th: Armenia 4 Wales 1 (Armenia names first): S Vardanian bt S Ward 21-18, 21-15; S Sargsian lost to N Tyler 14-21, 21-15, 14-21; A Djavadian bt R Jenkins 21-16, 21-14; Vardanian and Djavadian bt Tyler and Ward 21-12, 21-18; Vardanian bt Tyler 21-14, 21-13. 29th/30th: Scotland 4 Estonia 2 (Scotland names first): J Broe lost to I Solopov 5-21, 7-21; E Walker bt T Puntso 14-21, 21-8, 21-15; I Stokes bt A Stikk 21-15, 21-10; Stokes and Walker bt Solopov and Stikk 22-20, 14-21, 21-18; Walker lost to Solopov 5-21, 10-21; Stokes bt Puntso 21-9, 21-17. 31st/32nd: Switzerland 4 Bosnia-Herzegovina 2. 33rd/34th: Luxembourg 4 Portugal 0. 35th/36th: Lithuania 4 Latvia 0. 37th/38th: Norway 4 Iceland 0. 39th/40th: Cyprus 4 Malta 1. 41st/42nd: Liechtenstein 4 Georgia 2. 43rd/44th: Isle of Man w/o Albania scr.

Women: Semi-finals: Germany 4 Hungary 0; Russia 4 England 1 (England names first): L Lomas lost to G Meinik 14-21, 15-21; A Holt bt E Timina 19-21, 27-25, 21-17; A Gordon lost to I Palina 8-21, 14-21; Lomas and Holt lost to Palina and Timina 15-21, 12-21; Lomas lost to Timina 14-21, 22-20, 17-21. Play-offs: 3rd/4th places: Hungary 4 England 0 (Hungary names first): V Bilo bt L Lomas 21-15, 21-23, 21-18; C Batorfi bt A Holt 23-21, 22-20; K Toth bt A Gordon 21-19, 22-20; Batorfi and Toth bt Lomas and Holt 21-17, 21-12. 7th/8th: Sweden 4 France 1. 9th/10th: Croatia 4 Belgium 0. 11th/12th: Holland 4 Slovakia 2. 13th/14th: Ukraine 4 Czech Rep 3. 15th/16th: Austria 4 Bulgaria 3. 17th/18th: Slovenia 4 Lithuania 1. 19th/20th: Armenia 4 Greece 2. 21st/22nd: Poland 4 Israel 1. 23rd/24th: Finland 4 Spain 1. 25th/26th: Scotland 4 Estonia 2 (Scotland names first). J Smith bt P Hilu 21-11, 21-18; S Hurry lost to K Marks 19-21, 15-21; L Robb lost to K Kaitasi 5-21, 12-21; Smith and Hurry bt Hilu and Marks 21-18, 21-18; Smith bt Marks 21-17, 21-13; Hurry bt Kaitasi 21-13, 21-7. 27th/28th: Denmark 4 Norway 3.

TENNIS

SUN CITY: Men's tournament: First round: L Jonsson (Swe) bt J Stark (US) 6-2, 6-4; A Mronz (Ger) bt D Nainkin (SA) 7-6, 6-2; H Dreaimen (Ger) bt N Godwin (SA) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4; E Ferreira (SA) bt R Matsuzewski (US) 6-4, 7-5; G Muller (SA) bt G Pozza (It) 6-7, 6-2, 7-6; W Ferreira (SA) bt N Kulti (Swe) 6-1, 7-5; B Black (Zim) bt K Ulyett (Zim) 7-6, 6-4; K Kucera (Slovakia) bt R Koenig (SA) 3-6, 7-6, 6-2; J Hlasek (Switz) bt R Bartsocher (Austria) 6-3, 7-6; M Ondruska (SA) bt M Rosset (Switz) 6-7, 6-3, 7-6; M Zoecke (Ger) bt G Stafford (SA) 6-3, 6-4.

ESTORIL: Men's tournament: First round: A Correja (Sp) bt R Fromberg (Aus) 6-2, 6-2; R Furlan (It) bt J Arrese (Sp) 6-2, 6-2; A Costa (Sp) bt J Svensson (Swe) 0-6, 6-4, 6-2; E Sánchez (Sp) bt J Burillo (Sp) 6-7, 6-1, 6-2.

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina: Women's tournament: First round: K Boogert (Holl) bt H Kelesi (Can) 6-3, 6-4; B Schultz (Holl) bt R Zrubakova (Cz) 6-2, 6-2; C Kuhlman (US) bt C Rubin (US) 6-1, 6-4; B Rittner (Ger) bt L Courtois (Bel) 6-3, 6-2; L Neiland (Lat) bt K Radford (Aus) 6-3, 7-5; J Kruger (SA) bt A Grossman (US) 6-4, 6-2; R Bobikova (Cz) bt R Dragomir (Rom) 6-2, 5-7, 7-6; S Farina (It) bt E Maniokova (Russ) 6-1, 6-1; L Meshki (Geo) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 6-2, 6-2; A Coetzer (SA) bt K Kschwandt (Switz) 6-4, 6-2; I Gorrochategui (Arg) bt M Paz (Arg) 6-1, 6-3; L Raymond (US) bt N van Lottum (Fr) 6-1, 6-4; E Zardo (Switz) bt L McNeil (US) 7-6, 1-6, 6-4; G Helgeson (US) bt L Garrone (It) 6-1, 6-4; N Avila (Sp) bt J Husarova (Slovakia) 6-1, 6-2.

OSAKA, Japan: Men's tournament: First round: M Chang (US) bt J Renzenbrink (Ger) 6-1, 6-0; B Gilbert (US) bt R Tsujino (Japan) 7-5, 6-7, 6-2; J Tarango (US) bt Y Yamamoto (Japan) 6-1, 6-4; G Raoux (Fr) bt A Jarryd (Swe) 7-6, 7-6; A Krickstein (US) bt D Cahill (Aus) 6-1, 6-2; A Agassi (US) bt D Pisch (US) 6-1, 7-5; I Lendl (US) bt T Shimada (Japan) 6-2, 6-1; H Holm (Swe) bt S Matsuoka (Japan) 6-7, 6-4, 7-5; R Weiss (US) bt B Becker (Ger) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; P Sampras (US) bt S Simian (Fr) 7-5, 6-3.

ROYAL BERKSHIRE CLUB, Bracknell: Vauxhall Premier League Trophy: Men: First round: Royal Berkshire A 2 Match Point Southampton 0; David Lloyd Raynes Park 2 Puma Sunderland B 0; Matchpoint Bramhall 2 Royal Berkshire B 0; Puma Sunderland A 2 Clearview Brentwood 0. Semi-finals: Bramhall 2 Raynes Park 1; Royal Berks A 2 Sunderland A 0.

Vauxhall Indoor Trophy: Men: Semi-finals: Sunderland B 2 Royal Berks B 1; Southampton 2 Brentwood 0.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

FA Carling Premiership

Aston Villa v Everton (7.45)
Manchester United v Liverpool (8.0)
Sheffield Wednesday v Chelsea (7.45)
Southampton v Oldham

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

Leicester v Portsmouth (7.45)
Millwall v Luton (7.45)
Nottingham Forest v Watford
Southend v Notts County (7.45)
Stoke v Bristol City (7.45)
West Bromwich v Charlton (7.45)

Second division

Brighton v Plymouth (7.45)
Bristol Rovers v Blackpool (8.0)

GM Vauxhall Conference

Dagenham and Red v Bath (7.45)
Gateshead v Macclesfield

Scottish League

Premier division

Celtic v Raith
Hearts v Motherwell
St Johnstone v Kilmarnock

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Group A: Shamrock Rovers v Shelbourne (5.0).

FA TROPHY: Fourth round, replay: Billingham Synthonia v Woking.

FA VASE: Semi-final, replay: Atherton LR v Diss (at VS Rugby).

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Molesey v St Albans. Second division: Edgware v Rainham. Third division: Harlow v East Thurrock.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Rossendale v Clitheroe.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop Auckland v Frickley.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Corby v Hednesford. Midland division: Clevedon v Dudley; Newport AFC v King's Lynn, Yate v Bridgnorth. Southern division: Tonbridge AFC v Weymouth.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Les Phillips Cup: Glastonbury v Taunton.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Chatteris v Sudbury Wanderers.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE (7.0): First division: Derby v Bolton; Wolverhampton v York. Second division: Barnsley v Burnley; Huddersfield v Preston (7.30); Middlesbrough v Hull, Port Vale v Mansfield; Scunthorpe v Tranmere.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION (2.0): First division: Wimbledon v Oxford Utd. Second division: Cardiff v Bournemouth; Hereford v Swansea; Yeovil v Torquay (7.45)

SCHOOLS' INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Scotland Under-16 v France Under-16 (at Ross County).

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Blackheath v RAF.

SCHOOLS' INTERNATIONAL MATCH: 18 Group: Scotland v England (Kelso, 6.0).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Leicester City Riders v Birmingham Bullets.

HOCKEY: BUSF tournament (Glasgow).

SPEED SKATING: World short-track championships (Guildford).

SPEEDWAY: British League: Second division: Long Eaton v Sheffield.

TABLE TENNIS: European championships (National Indoor Arena, Birmingham).

TENNIS: Vauxhall Premier League Trophy. Women's final: Clearview Brentwood v Northumberland (Royal Berkshire Club, Bracknell).

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

Sandown Park

Going: good (good to firm in places)

2.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, GALE AGAIN (D Murphy, 13-8 fav); 2, Eastshaw (B Powell, 5-2); 3, Love Arlew (N Williamson, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Young Pokey (4th), 6 Romany King (ur), 150 Young Alfie (ur), 6 ran. 2½l, 4l, 8l. T Stack in Ireland. Tote: £2.50; £1.40, £1.80. DF: £3.00. CSF: £5.57.

2.55 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, MARTHA'S SON (R Dunwoody, 8-15 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating): 2, Yorkshire Gale (D Murphy, 7-2); 3, Ginger Tristan (Peter Hobbs, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 20 Bally Parson (f). 4 ran. NR: Poppets Pet, 14l, 13l. T Forster at Wantage. Tote: £1.50. DF: £1.70. CSF: £2.56.

3.25 (3m 110yd ch) 1, WELKNOWN CHARACTER (Mr D Aird-Hankey, 6-1); 2, Fifth Amendment (Mr C Ward Thomas, 10-1); 3, Tribal Ruler (Mr D McCain, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 [k-fav The Master Gunner (pu), Touching Star (4th), 5 Loch Blue (f), 10 Smooth Escort (6th), 16 Scrumpy Country, 20 Never Be Great (ur), 33 Kilkenon (5th), 50 Eagle Trace, Gunner Stream (ur), Knox's Corner, Norstown, Prince Nepal, Warner's End (ur), 66 Major Elston. 17 ran. 30l, 8l, 1l, 15l, 2½l. P Nicholls at Shepton Mallet. Tote: £7.80; £2.80, £4.20, £3.00. DF: £52.60. Trio: £213.20. CSF: £57.14.

3.55 (3m 110yd ch) 1, BUCK WILLOW (D Murphy, 10-11 fav, Richard Evans's rep); 2, Boreal Bud (D Gallagher, 5-1); 3, Mighty Falcon (P Holley, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 4 Richville (4th), 8 Arctic Call (6th), Henry Mann (5th), 66 The Leggett. 7 ran. 3½l, 2l, sh hd, ¾l, 12l. J Gifford at Findon. Tote: £1.90; £1.30, £2.50. DF: £3.60. CSF: £5.90.

4.25 (2m) 1, SPREE CROSS (A Maguire, 6-5 fav); 2, Mulbenk (C Maude, 8-1); 3, Boutzdaroff (M Dwyer, 100-30) 3 ran. Sh hd, dist, Mrs D Haine. Tote: £1.90. DF: £1.30. CSF: £3.06.

4.55 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, AMARI KING (Mr C Ward Thomas, 13-2); 2, Treyford (Mr A Steel, 20-1); 3, Denberdale (Mr D Parker, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Quick Repor (pu), 11-2 Roxall Clump (6th), 7 Bee Gorden (pu), 20 Dromin Leader, Hilarion (5th), Minstrel Man (4th), 25 Crafty Chaplain, 33 Curaheen Boy, 50 Gatterstown (pu). 12 ran NR: Duncan, 3l, 3½l, 10l, 1¾l, 3l. J Wall at Cheltenham. Tote: £8.90; £2.60, £5.40, £2.60. DF: £77.20. Trio: £300.40. CSF: £113.71.

Jackpot: £803.70.

Placepot: £160.90.

Newcastle

Going: good to soft

2.35 (6f) 1, BARATO (J Weaver, 8-11), 2, Fairey Firefly (L Charnock, 6-1); 3, Nez Carrera (A Culhane, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 11-10 fav Salome's Dance, 5 Last Quarry, 10 Sonnetteer (6th), 14 Maid O'Cannie (4th), 25 Pavachi (5th) 8 ran. 6l, 1l, hd, 1l, 2½l. Mrs J Ramsden at Thirsk. Tote: £8.20; £1.70, £1.30, £3.30. DF: £25.20. CSF: £46.45. Evil Charlie (7-1) withdrawn, not under orders — rule 4 applies to all bets, deduction 10p in pound.

3.05 (5f) 1, SOUND THE TRUMPET (J Carroll, 5-4 fav); 2, Chadleigh Walk (S Perks, 9-4); 3, Acorn (K Darley, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Poly Lane (4th), 12 Baroudy Lady, 14 Local Heroine, Millbank Challenger, Pallium, 16 Eager Deva (5th), 20 Crakjak Boy (4th), 12 ran. Nk, 2l, 1l, 1½l, 1¾l. T Barron at Thirsk. Tote: £2.50; £1.50, £1.30, £4.90. DF: £5.60. Trio: £34.70. CSF: £12.79. Tricast: £105.66.

4.10 (2m 19yd) 1, ATTADALE (M Birch, 4-6 fav); 2, Wheeler's Wonder (K Darley, 7-1); 3, Loch Garanne (L Charnock, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Soolama (6th), 10 Vain Prince, Very Evident (5th), 12 Marmara Reef, 20 Bering Island (4th), 50 Lodging. 8 ran. Sl, 1¾l, 6l, 1l, 2l. L Lungo at Carruthersdown. Tote: £2.00; £1.20, £2.00, £3.00 DF: £4.90. Trio: £22.40. CSF: £7.23. Tricast: £28.29.

4.40 (1m 2f 32yd) 1, JAAWIB (B Raymond); 2, Burringham Boy (D Harrison), 2 ran 15l. M Stoute at Newmarket. Tote: £1.10. No starting prices returned.

5.10 (1m 2f 32yd) 1, I'M A DREAMER (Dean McKeown, 11-2); 2, Retender (K Fallon, 5-1); 3, Kelly Mac (T Quinn, 15-8 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Tanoda (5th), 17-2 Thalenos (4th), 10 Rod Whirlwind, Ringland, 12 Abeloni (6th), 8 ran. Sh hd, 1l, 3½l, 3½l, 3l. W Haigh at Malton. Tote: £5.30; £1.90, £2.80, £1.10. DF: £16.80. CSF: £33.11. Tricast: £55.90.

Placepot: £32.90.

THE BEST BALL BY BALL COMMENTARY
WEST INDIES V ENGLAND
LIVE ON:
0891 12 11 34
cricketcall

هكذا من الأصل

New team assembled for smooth National start

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

WITH the Martell Grand National at Aintree only ten days away, the Jockey Club yesterday unveiled the new starting team and technology aimed at preventing a repeat of last year's void-race fiasco.

The Heath Robinson-style starting gate has been swept away along with the bowler-hatted Capt Keith Brown and Ken Evans, the £26-a-day flag man. In their place a sophisticated, electronic starting system has been designed which will be operated by Simon Morant, the senior starter, backed up by five full-time professionals.

Significantly, several modifications and improvements have been introduced in addition to the changes recommended by the working group, chaired by Andrew Parker-Bowles, in the wake of last year's embarrassment.

The new starting gate, designed by the Dorking-based firm of Gill & Punter, has been altered since it was first used at Aintree's November meeting. The tape stretches across 40 yards of the course — compared to 65 yards last year — and will now move up and away from the horses at an angle of 45 degrees rather than vertically. It is estimated the tape will rise five times faster than last year's model.

More importantly, the remote control system of operating the gate, involving the use of radio waves, has been scrapped. It had prompted fears that protestors could have tripped the starting gate with their own remote control.

When Morant, aged 50, steps up on to the starter's rostrum for the Grand National he will press a button, hidden from jockeys' view to prevent them anticipating the start, which is hard-wired to the release mechanism for the tape. The new starting gate has been in use for recent meetings at Newbury racecourse and has worked without a hitch for 15 starts.

The new starting gate will not be positioned on the bend in front of the stands, as in the past, but nearer the Melling Road to give jockeys and the starter an unrestricted view of the first fence.

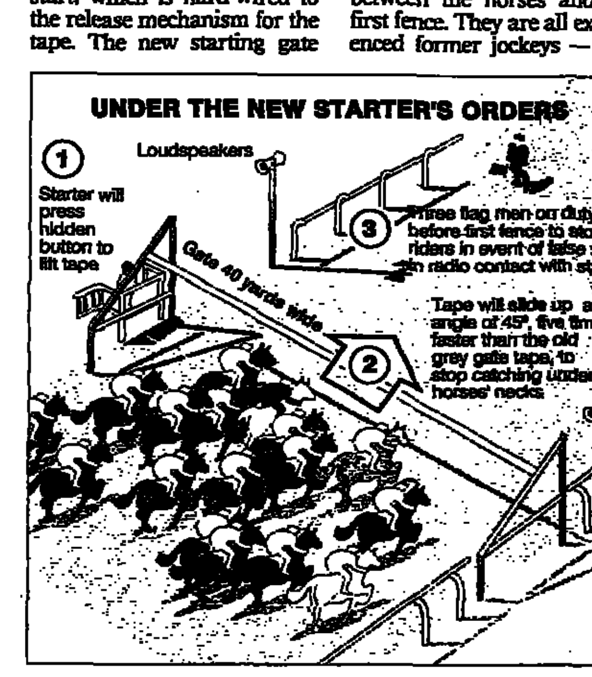
Three flag men — not two as recommended by Parker-Bowles — will be positioned between the horses and the first fence. They are all experienced former jockeys — Phil Tuck, Brian Reilly and John Suthern.

Morant, who will have an improved loudspeaker system at the start so that jockeys can hear his instructions, will be assisted by Gerry Scott, the deputy senior starter, who won the 1960 running of the Grand National on Merryman. Mac Turner, who makes sure no horses get left at the start, completes the six-strong team.

David Pipe, director of public affairs at the Jockey Club, said yesterday: "Since last year we have had two enquiries, one to establish what happened and the other to see what changes needed to be made. The Jockey Club's racecourse department has worked closely over the past few months with Aintree and, hopefully, we have designed a system which is modern and efficient."

Morant has been a starter for 20 years and officiated at more than 3,000 meetings following a brief career as a trainer. He was part of the Parker-Bowles working group and has been closely involved with the development of the starting gate.

However, since being promoted to senior starter he has had to endure some awkward moments, most notably at Chepstow in November when a false start provoked controversy.



HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Martha's Son, left, leaps ahead on his way to victory in the British Aerospace Rapier Chase at Sandown

Stack offers Gale Again major chance

TOMMY Stack, who partnered Red Rum to his historic third Grand National triumph in 1977, is hoping some of the Aintree specialist's magic rubs off on his young challenger Gale Again.

The seven-year-old booked his National place after winning at Sandown yesterday, and immediately headed north to board with Red Rum's trainer, Ginger McCain, at Cholmondeley in Cheshire. "He may learn a bit from Red Rum," said Stack, who brought Gale Again over from Ireland for the 2½-mile Gunner Heritage Campaign Handicap Chase because of the better ground.

The victory was comfortably gained and Ladbrokes and William Hill cut his National price to 33-1 from 50-1, although how the Peter Piller-owned chaser, allotted 9st 13lb at Aintree, will cope with the much longer trip is open to question.

Declan Murphy reached his half-century for the season when completing his double on course specialist Buck Willow, who recorded his fifth successive victory at Sandown in the Alanbrooke Memorial Handicap Chase.

ASCOT

THUNDERER

1.20 Tothewoods
1.55 Nearly Splendid
2.30 Cabochon
3.00 Avro Anson
3.35 SMARTIE EXPRESS (nap)
4.15 Pontynyswen
4.45 Teen Jay

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.45 No Pain No Gain.

GOING: GOOD SIS

1.20 E.B.F. NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Qualifier: £2,879: 2m 4f) (15 runners)

101 15/1015 BUTLER'S TWITCH 61 (G,S) (C Heath) O Sherwood 7-11-7 J Osborne 94
102 31F13 COILED SPRING 27 (F,G) (Miss E West) D Nicholson 7-11-7 A Maguire 83
103 663-1P6 JULIOS GENIUS 110 (F) (Mrs P Jubert) B Meehan 7-11-7 M Dwyer 84
104 413361 MASTER BOSTON 22 (D,G,S) (M Oldham) R Woodhouse 6-11-7 R Garritty 89
105 01214F TOTHEWOODS 14 (S) (Mrs C Scott) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-7 C Llewellyn
106 11-103 CALL HOME 19 (F,G) (M Pinto) J Gifford 6-11-5 D Murphy 78
107 066-P12 TOO CLEVER BY HALF 41 (D,G) (R Johnson Houghton) 6-11-5 Mr G Johnson Houghton 75
108 858 HIZAL 16 (H Manners) H Manners 5-11-0 M Appleby (7) —
109 R JOURNEYS FRIEND 76 (P Winfield) N Henderson 6-11-0 R Dunwoody —
110 002 KING LUCIFER 20 (Mrs A Davies) D Nicholson 5-11-0 W Marston 71
111 02 ME FEIN 8 (P Byrne) B Curley 6-11-0 E Murphy —
112 0 MONKS SOHAM 21 (G Hubbard) F Murphy 6-11-0 J R Kavanagh —
113 U MR ELECTRAMECH 11 (D McGinley) J O'Donoghue 7-11-0 A Tory —
114 1/048F REFERRAL FEE 98 (F) (S Mullins) J Mullins 7-11-0 S Earle 64
115 0 TRIPLE TREAT 18 (West Coast Racing) G Balding 5-11-0 R J Beggan —

BETTING: 6-4 Tothewoods, 11-2 Butler's Twitch, 13-2 Master Boston, 7-1 Call Home, 8-1 Coiled Spring, 10-1 King Lucifer, Too Clever By Half, 12-1 others.

1993: THE GLOW 5-11-2 P Holley (7-1) D Elsworth 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

BUTLER'S TWITCH beat Keep Me In Mind ½l in 12-runner novice hurdle at Stratford (2m 110yd, good to soft). COILED SPRING 14l 3rd of 8 to Golden Spinner in novice hurdle at Ludlow (2m 5f 110yd, good). JULIO'S GENIUS beat Tour Leader 12l in 9-runner novice hurdle at Kempton (2m 5f, good to firm). MASTER BOSTON beat Great Max 4l in 17-runner novice hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 5f 110yd, good). TOTHEWOODS 26l 4th of 13 to See Enough in novice hurdle at Chepstow (3m, soft). TOO CLEVER BY HALF beat Bobby Socks ¾l in 10-runner novice hurdle at Lingfield (AW, 2m 4f). KING LUCIFER 8l 2nd of 15 to Chemin Le Roi in novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good). CALL HOME 8½l 3rd of 11 to Dunowatellow in novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, good to soft). TRIPLE TREAT 31l 10th of 25 to Squire Silk in novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: BUTLER'S TWITCH

1.55 MERLIN NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE
(Amateurs: £3,566: 3m 110yd) (15 runners)

201 42212 ANDROS PRINCE 16 (D,BF,G,S) (Miss C Gordon) Miss C Gordon 9-12-7 M Felton (7) 90
202 3-1 AVOSTAR 12 (D,G) (R Russell) Miss C Saunders 7-12-7 R Russell (5)
203 4213 CAPE COTTAGE 7 (F,G,S) (D Caro) D Caro 10-12-7 A Phillips (7) 85
204 1113 NEARLY SPLENDID 14 (F,G,S) (D) (S Stevens) S Stevens 9-12-7 T Greed (7) 90
205 311-2 CHERRYHILL BEAUTY 18P (F,G,S) (Mrs A Davies) M Gingell 10-12-0 M Gingell (7) 84
206 F/421 DERRING BUD 11P (G,S) Lady Susan Brooke 10-12-0 M Jackson (7) —
207 R-4P0 EASTER FROLIC 22 (F,G) (B Howard) B Howard 12-12-0 G Brown (7) 78
208 U2-32 JIMMY CONE 32P (G,S) (B Venoum) B Venoum 11-12-0 B Pollock (7) —
209 -3U22 JOLLY ROGER 21 (BF,F) (N Skelton) N Skelton 7-12-0 Michael J Jones (7) 88
210 4-429 QUICK REACTION 39P (F,G) (Mrs E Heath) Mrs E Heath 11-12-0 Mrs L Gibbon (3) 76
211 11111 RICHARD HUNT 11P (F,G,S) (Mrs P Rowe) V Rowe 10-12-0 Miss L Rowe (7) 80
212 FP/3- SCALISCRO 372 (J Mackenzie) J Ford 13-12-0 C Wadland (7) —
213 18-12 ST LAYCAR 22 (G,S) (C Ward) G Tarry 9-12-0 G Tarry (5) 98
214 4422 ZORRO'S MARK 23 (F,G) (Mrs J Purdie) Mrs J Purdie 7-12-0 DOUBTFUL —
215 3233- TAMAR LASS 303 (S) (D du Plessis) Miss J du Plessis 9-11-9 D Stephens (7) 76

□ Form figures include point-to-points

BETTING: 3-1 Nearly Splendid, 5-1 Andros Prince, Avostar, 6-1 Cape Cottage, Richard Hunt, 7-1 St Laycar, 10-1 Cherryhill Beauty, 12-1 Jolly Roger, 14-1 others.

1993: MOORCROFT BOY 8-11-8 T Jenks (11-8 fav) D Nicholson 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANDROS PRINCE 2l 2nd of 15 to Strong Gold in hunter chase at Taunton (3m, good to soft). CAPE COTTAGE beat Carrickmines 5l in 6-runner hunter chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, soft). NEARLY SPLENDID 7½l 3rd of 19 to Christmas Gorse in amateurs' novice chase at Cheltenham (4m, good to soft).
JIMMY CONE 10l 2nd of 14 to Skygrange in hunter chase at Warwick (3m 1f, good to firm). JOLLY ROGER 1½l 2nd of 7 to Kalisboard in hunter chase at Bangor (3m 110yd, soft). ST LAYCAR head 2nd of 15 to Clare Man in maiden hunter chase at Leicester (3m, good to soft), with EASTER FROLIC over 60l 11th. AVOSTAR beat Synderborough Lad 10l in 6-runner hunter chase at Lingfield Park (3m, good to soft). TAMAR LASS 1¾l 3rd of 10 to Sonofagipsy in maiden hunter chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, good) in May 1993. RICHARD HUNT 17½l 3rd of 21 to Wild Illusion on most recent hunter chase start at Cheltenham (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm) in May 1993.
Selection: ST LAYCAR

2.30 GOLDEN EAGLE NOVICES CHASE BBC1
(£8,169: 2m 3f 110yd) (7 runners)

301 6-12313 BAS DE LAINE 53 (F,G) (R Bids Ltd) O Sherwood 8-11-8 J Osborne 96
302 00-21F2 BUSTINELLO 145 (G) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 6-11-4 A Maguire 59
303 548111 CABOCHON 18 (G,S) (J Joseph) R Frost 7-11-4 J Frost 95
304 PP-4004 EXACT ANALYSIS 9 (S) (Mrs E Townley-Berry) N Mitchell 8-11-4 P Niven 50
305 4E2F50 GHIA GNEUIAGH 14 (CD,G,S) (Mrs S Scott) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-4 C Llewellyn
306 P-FP401 HERMES HARVEST 12 (G) (Mrs B Palmer) D Williams 6-11-4 R Dunwoody 75
307 P114 HOPS AND POPS 39 (F,G,S) (B Dennett) R Alner 7-10-13 S Earle 87

BETTING: 7-4 Bas De Laine, 2-1 Cabochon, 4-1 Hops And Pops, 7-1 Ghia Gneuiagh, 10-1 Bustinello, 12-1 Hermes Harvest, 50-1 Exact Analysis.

1993: ANTONIN 5-10-10 J Burke (11-2) Mrs S Bramall 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

BAS DE LAINE beat Monsieur Le Cure short head in 8-runner novice chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, good), with GHIA GNEUIAGH (4lb better off) a faller.
BUSTINELLO 15l 2nd of 7 to Mr Woodcock in novice chase at Market Rasen (2m 4f, good). CABOCHON beat Big Beat 1½l in 6-runner novice chase at Sandown (2m, good to soft). GHIA GNEUIAGH over 30l 10th of 18 to Monsieur Le Cure in grade I Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good to soft). HERMES HARVEST beat Ring Corbitts 4l in 11-runner novice chase at Lingfield (3m, good). HOPS AND POPS 4¾l 3rd of 7 to Country Lad in grade II Michael Seely Novice Chase at Nottingham (2m, good to soft).
Selection: CABOCHON

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Miss H Knight	3	12	25.0	M Dwyer	6	24	25.0
S Dow	3	12	25.0	W Irvine	3	12	25.0
M Pipe	22	95	23.2	J Osborne	19	83	22.9
N Twiston-Davies	12	53	22.6	M Perrett	10	54	18.5
O Sherwood	11	51	21.6	A Maguire	7	41	17.1
R Hodges	4	20	20.0	J Frost	8	51	15.7

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.00 LETHEBY & CHRISTOPHER LONG DISTANCE HURDLE BBC1
(Grade II: £13,100: 3m) (12 runners)

401 01224-P PRAGADA 13 (B,CD,G,S) (Mrs M McGlone) M Pipe 11-11-10 M Perrett 91
402 113245 SWEET DUKE 13 (CD,G,S) (A Mavrou) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-10 C Llewellyn 91
403 332440 BURGOYNE 13 (G) (P Savill) M H Easterby 8-11-7 P Niven 92
404 33-4534 SAYYURE 23 (C,D,F,G,S) (B Lovey) T Thomson Jones 8-11-7 J Osborne 64
405 430-056 SWEET GLOW 13 (CD,F,G,S) (L Hyman) M Pipe 7-11-7 R Dunwoody 90
406 4/1104F TRIPLE WITCHING 13 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) D Nicholson 8-11-7 A Maguire 96
407 4231-04 ACROW LINE 25 (D,S) (R Williams) D Burchell 9-11-3 D J Burchell 60
408 24-2322 AVRO ANSON 13 (F,G) (B Sutton) M Camacho 6-11-3 M Dwyer
409 13/4353- DARA DOONE 438 (G,S) (Saum Racing) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-3 W Humphreys 73
410 1F5112 DARK HONEY 15 (D,G,S) (R Sayer) S Dow 9-11-3 A Dicken 95
411 1-35011 TIME FOR A RUN 14 (G,S) (J McManus) E O'Grady (Ire) 7-11-3 C Swan 98
412 1241-5P LORNA-GAIL 53 (D,G,S) (H Perry) R Alner 8-10-12 S Earle 81

BETTING: 9-4 Avro Anson, 9-2 Time For A Run, 5-1 Sweet Glow, 6-1 Sweet Duke, Triple Witching, 8-1 Dark Honey, 20-1 Pragada, 33-1 Burgoyne, Dara Doone, Lorna-Gail, 40-1 Sayyure, 66-1 Acrow Line.

1993: SWEET DUKE 6-11-3 C Llewellyn (5-1) N Twiston-Davies 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

PRAGADA 11¾l 4th to Boscean Chieftain in hurdle at Haydock (2m 7f 110yd, good to firm), with BURGOYNE (13lb better off) 1¾l 5th and SWEET DUKE (1lb better off) 27l 7th. SWEET DUKE 6l 2nd to Flakey Dove in Grade I Cleeve Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f 110yd, soft), with TRIPLE WITCHING (3lb better off) 15¾l 4th and SWEET GLOW 12l 5th. AVRO ANSON disqualified after beating Balasani short head in grade I Bonusprint Stayers Hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 110yd, good to soft), with SWEET DUKE (7lb worse off) 4l 5th, SWEET GLOW (3lb better off) ¾l 6th, BURGOYNE over 30l 10th, PRAGADA (3lb worse off) pulled up and TRIPLE WITCHING (3lb better off) a faller. DARA DOONE 3l 3rd to SWEET GLOW (9lb better off) in handicap hurdle over course and distance (heavy) in January 1993, with SWEET DUKE (5lb worse off) 26l 6th, PRAGADA (14lb better off) 19l 9th and SAYYURE (13lb worse off) pulled up. DARK HONEY short head 2nd to Tindari in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 2f, good to soft). TIME FOR A RUN beat So Proud 1¾l in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft).
Selection: AVRO ANSON

3.35 PEREGRINE HANDICAP CHASE BBC1
(£8,286: 2m 3f 110yd) (6 runners)

501 21-22P1 GALE AGAIN 1 (F,G,S) (P Piller) T Stack (Ire) 7-12-0 (4ex) NON-RUNNER —
502 124413 SMARTIE EXPRESS 14 (C,D,F,G,S) (S Norman) R Hodges 12-10-7 R Dunwoody
503 F2-3133 ITS NEARLY TIME 7 (G,S) (Mrs R Brackenbury) Mrs R Brackenbury 11-10-5 A Maguire 91
504 64P542 EMSEE-H 48 (F,G,S) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 9-10-0 C Llewellyn 81
505 343224 CAMPSEA-ASH 19 (F,G) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 10-10-0 D Murphy 86
506 211F52 LITTLE TOM 18 (D,F,G,S) (M O'Connor) J King 9-10-0 J R Kavanagh 72

Long handicap: Emsee-H 9-4, Campsea-Ash 9-4, Little Tom 8-12.

BETTING: 6-4 Smartie Express, 2-1 Its Nearly Time, 4-1 Emsee-H, 7-1 Campsea-Ash, 14-1 Little Tom.

1993: CALAPAEZ 9-11-10 S McNeill (9-2) Miss B Sanders 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

SMARTIE EXPRESS 4¾l 3rd of 18 to Elfast in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110y, good to soft). Earlier beat Rough Quest 1½l in 6-runner handicap chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, good). IT'S NEARLY TIME 3¾l 3rd of 7 to Broughton Manor in handicap chase at Exeter (2m 2f, good to soft). Earlier beat Chain Shot 6l in 6-runner amateurs' handicap chase at Stratford (2m 1f 110y, good to soft). EMSEE-H 5l 2nd of 3 to Allaal in handicap chase at Huntingdon (2m 110y, soft). CAMPSEA-ASH best effort when 4l 2nd of 6 to Just Frankie in handicap chase at Wetherby (2m, good to soft).
Selection: SMARTIE EXPRESS

4.15 KESTREL HURDLE
(Limited handicap: £4,834: 2m 110yd) (6 runners)

601 32-6320 KILCASH 61 (B,CD,G,S) (J Whelan) P Hedger 6-11-10 M Richards 95
602 322R30 HIGH BARON 15 (D,F,S) (Miss C James) R Alner 7-11-8 A Maguire
603 1-11033 LEOTARD 18 (D,G,S) (C Heath) O Sherwood 7-11-7 J Osborne 94
604 411204- INDIAN QUEST 335 (D,S) (J Racing) N Gaselee 5-10-13 C Llewellyn 88
605 131-843 PONTYNYSWEN 25 (V,D,G,S) (J Thomas) D Burchell 6-10-7 D J Burchell 89
606 1-224FF GANDOUGE GLEN 108 (F,G) (Mrs S Embiricos) J Gifford 7-10-7 P Hide (3) 84

Long handicap: Gandouge Glen 9-10.

BETTING: 5-2 Kilcash, 11-4 High Baron, 3-1 Leotard, 7-1 Indian Quest, 10-1 Pontynyswen, 16-1 Gandouge Glen.

1993: DOC'S COAT 8-10-7 A Maguire (15-2) C Wildman 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

KILCASH 2l 2nd of 9 to Child Of The Mist in handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m, good). Earlier 12l 3rd of 8 to Absalom's Lady in conditions hurdle over course and distance (good to soft), with PONTYNYSWEN (10lb better off) 26½l 6th. HIGH BARON 8½l 3rd of 5 to Valfinet in Grade II Kingwell Hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. LEOTARD 3½l 3rd of 13 to Precious Boy in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good). INDIAN QUEST 16½l 4th of 13 to Shawiya in Grade I Murphys Irish Stout Champion (Juvenile) Hurdle at Punchestown (2m, good to yielding). PONTYNYSWEN 6½l 3rd of 13 to Ratify in handicap hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good).
Selection: KILCASH

4.45 SPARROW HAWK NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,696: 2m 110yd) (14 runners)

1 3-11455 KING'S TREASURE 55 (BF,G,S) (P Mellon) I Balding 5-11-10 W Irvine 91
2 26510 DOCTOOR 13 (D,S) (R Baker) R O'Sullivan 4-11-9 D O'Sullivan 91
3 10-411 CHAPEL OF BARRAS 16 (D,G,S) (Hawkridge Cheese Ltd) P Hobbs 5-11-9 Peter Hobbs 88
4 2-121 NO PAIN NO GAIN 8 (D,G,S) (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 6-11-5 (4ex) E Murphy 95
5 22215 BENGALI 120 (D,F) (J Grist) D Grissell 4-11-0 J Railton 80
6 040-162 GOTTA BE JOKING 25 (D,G) (Mrs P Scott-Dunn) Miss H Knight 5-10-10 A Maguire 96
7 P/2P RES IPSA LOQUITUR 11 (R Gray) J Long 7-10-10 D Gallagher 98
8 6/002-01 HEDGEHOPPER 16 (G,S) (D Kand) C Weedon 6-10-8 M Richards
9 5122 TEEN JAY 19 (D,G) (F Bush) S Sherwood 4-10-8 J Osborne 94
10 62523 FOREVER SHINEING 11 (M Foy) S Mellor 4-10-4 M Perrett 88
11 320-006 FALCONBRIDGE BAY 16 (P Stokespeare) N Henderson 7-10-2 R Dunwoody 89
12 665-2 PETTAUGH 14 (G Hubbard) F Murphy 6-10-0 J R Kavanagh 77
13 050003 MONAZITE 11 (B) (Albury Racing Ltd) J McConnochie 4-10-0 E Tolhurst (7) 91
14 0406 WORLDLY PROSPECT 15 (Miss N Berry) Miss N Berry 6-10-0 P Hide (3) 89

Long handicap: Worldly Prospect 9-12.

BETTING: 11-4 No Pain No Gain, 4-1 Chapel Of Barras, 6-1 King's Treasure, 8-1 Teen Jay, 10-1 others.

1993: NORTHERN SADDLER 6-10-3 W Irvine (7-1) R Hodges 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

DOCTOOR 23½l 10th of 28 to Mysilv in grade I Daily Express Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good), with MONAZITE (23lb better off) 66l 23rd. CHAPEL OF BARRAS beat Manlow's Air 2l in 13-runner novice hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good). NO PAIN NO GAIN beat Polly Minor 5l in 9-runner novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, good). GOTTA BE JOKING 15l 2nd of 8 to Dreams End in novice hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, soft). HEDGEHOPPER beat Broad Steane 5l in 9-runner novice handicap hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good to soft), with FALCONBRIDGE BAY (12lb better off) 17¾l 6th. TEEN JAY neck 2nd of 10 to DOCTOOR (3lb worse off) in novice handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: HEDGEHOPPER (nap)



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

Smartie Express has spring in stride

ASCOT
BBC1

2.30: Despite an eight-week lay off **Bas De Laine** will take all the beating now that Oliver Sherwood's promising novice has ground conditions to suit. On his debut over fences at Kempton over Christmas he justified strong market support to defeat Monsieur Le Cure, the subsequent Sun Alliance Chase winner. His last run, third behind Baydon Star and Crystal Spirit, can be ignored due to the soft ground. The selection goes particularly well fresh. Cabochon's fencing was much improved at Sandown last time and he is the main danger. Although he would ideally prefer softer ground, the step up in trip should suit. Hops And Pops is highly-regarded but faces her toughest test to date.

3.00: A fascinating replay of the Cheltenham festival sees six Stayers' Hurdle runners re-opposing, along with the winner of the Coral Cup and runner-up in the Hamlet Cigars Gold Card race. Avro Anson, the disqualified winner of the stayers' crown, clearly has an excellent chance of making amends on his favoured good ground. However, I marginally prefer **Time For A Run**, who landed the Coral Cup in fine style. The winner was running beyond 2½ miles for the first time, but he ran on strongly at the end of a fast-run race, suggesting today's three-mile trip should pose no problems. Sweet Glow looks a cast iron each-way bet. Last year's winner has been lightly raced this campaign but finished in fine style behind Avro Anson at Cheltenham having been set a lot to do. Martin Pipe's runner loves Ascot and today's ground.

3.35: The 12-year-old **Smartie Express** arguably ran the best race of his life when finishing a close third to the gambled-on Elfast at Cheltenham. If he reproduces that form — he is a spring horse who loves good or faster ground — he will surely win. The booking of Adrian Maguire for Its Nearly Time catches the eye but the drying ground is not in his favour. Despite being way out of the handicap, Little Tom rates the danger.

RICHARD EVANS

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: LEOTARD
(4.15 Ascot)
Next best: Time For A Run
(3.00 Ascot)

CATTERICK

THUNDERER

2.20 Wali. 2.50 Poly Laureon. 3.20 Broughtons Formula. 3.50 North Ardar. 4.20 Circus Colours. 4.50 Indian Dreamer.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.20 Broughtons Formula. 4.50 INDIAN DREAMER (nap).

GOING: GOOD SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.20 FORCETT PARK SELLING STAKES
(£2,574: 7f) (18 runners)

1 (2) 0400 BALLAD DANCER 47 (D,F,G,S) P Calver 9-9-11 M Birch 88
2 (3) 60-0 GYMCRAK TYCOON 88 (D,F,G,S) G Holmes 5-9-11 K Darley —
3 (13) 4001 PRIME MOVER 7 (B,D,G) D Chapman 8-9-11 J Fanning 90
4 (9) 000- WALI 104 (D,S) J Berry 4-9-11 J Carroll
5 (12) 0-00 WATERLORD 67 (D,S) D Nicholls 4-9-11 Alex Greaves 88
6 (17) 2054 COBBS CROSS 15 T Caldwell 4-9-7 M Fenton (3) 81
7 (4) /00 CZAR'S WITNESS 40 Mrs A Swinbank 4-9-7 A Clark —
8 (1) 05-0 LANCASTER PILOT 32J J Eyre 4-9-7 J Tate (5) 76
9 (6) 0006 OSCAR THE SECOND 40 C Fairhurst 4-9-7 Dean McKeown —
10 (11) 00-0 SAMANTHAS JOY 15 A Potts 4-9-2 N Kennedy (3) 62
11 (10) 05-6 SEA-AYR 44 Mrs S Austin 4-9-2 J Marshall (5) —
12 (7) 000- THROW AWAY LINE 159 R Barr 5-9-2 S Webster 80
13 (18) 6-0 UNNAB 21J (B) Denys Smith 4-9-2 C Teague (7) 74
14 (14) 0434 CAPITAL LADY 44 G Rothwell 3-8-0 D Harrison 71
15 (16) 60- DUNSLOW ROAD 186 M H Easterby 3-8-0 J Quinn —
16 (5) 680- KATHYS RAINBOW 146 M Meagher 3-8-0 S Wood 77
17 (8) 000- LITTLE BROWNIE 119 B Ellison 3-8-0 A Mackay —
18 (15) 05-4 MARBLE 25 D Moffatt 3-8-0 Darren Moffatt (5) 73

6-4 Wali, 4-1 Marble, Prime Mover, 6-1 Kathys Rainbow, 10-1 Capital Lady, 12-1 Ballad Dancer, Gymcrak Tycoon, 14-1 Dunslow Lad, 16-1 others.

2.50 TOYTOP CONDITIONS STAKES
(2-Y-O: £4,007: 5f) (7)

1 (3) 8 SEIGNEURIAL 8 R Whitaker 8-11 A Culhane —
2 (7) LOCH MARINER W Barker 8-6 S Webster —
3 (2) LONGCROFT K Hogg 8-6 J Weaver —
4 (4) POCKET EDITION M H Easterby 8-6 M Birch —
5 (1) 1 POLY LAUREON 5 (D,F) M Channon 8-6 T Quinn —
6 (6) SWEET CHEAP PET J Berry 8-6 S D Williams —
7 (5) WE'RE JOKEN J Berry 8-6 J Carroll —

7-4 Poly Laureon, 4-1 Sweet Cheap Pet, We're Joken, 7-1 Seigneurial, 8-1 Pocket Edition, 12-1 Longcroft, 16-1 Loch Mariner.

3.20 YARM HANDICAP (£4,329: 1m 5f 175yd) (4)

1 (2) 460- FIRST BID 144 (F,S) R Whitaker 7-10-0 A Culhane 91
2 (1) 00-1 OLD RED 7 (G) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-10 (4ex) K Darley 85
3 (4) 1341 BROUGHTONS FORMULA 6 (B,G) W Musson 4-8-9 D Biggs 97
4 (3) 4320 ARC BRIGHT 11 (G) R Hollinshead 4-8-4 L Dettori

5-4 Broughtons Formula, 7-4 Old Red, 4-1 Arc Bright, 6-1 First Bid.

3.50 GODS SOLUTION HANDICAP (£3,407: 7f) (13)

1 (6) 101- CHAMPAGNE GRANDY 147 (CD,G,S) M Channon 4-10-0 R Perham (7) 91
2 (3) 004- SPANISH VERDICT 146 (D,F,S) Denys Smith 7-9-13 C Teague (7) 92
3 (13) 0-00 PLUM FIRST 5 (F,S) N Bycroft 4-8-11 S Whitworth 91
4 (1) -556 NORTH ARDAR 7 (CD) M Johnston 4-8-9 Dean McKeown 92
5 (10) 000- COSTA VERDE 242 (D,S) K Hogg 4-8-9 A Culhane —
6 (12) 358- MCA BELOW THE LINE 165 (V,CD,F,G,S) W Barker 6-8-7 S Webster 89
7 (4) 160- WHITE CREEK 207 (V,D,G,S) J Berry 4-8-6 J Carroll 88
8 (8) 0406 LARN FORT 15 (C,G,S) C Fairhurst 4-8-0 J Fanning 82
9 (2) 2133 ALPINE JOHNNY 11 (G) R Hollinshead 3-7-12 A Garth (5) 90
10 (7) 6180 OLD COMRADES 9 (D,F,G) T Barron 7-7-9 A Mackay 92
11 (5) 500- INNOCENT GEORGE (D,G) Miss L Siddall 5-7-7 J Lowe 95
12 (9) 0-00 VILAMAR 25 (CD,F) E Alston 4-7-7 J Quinn
13 (11) 0-40 WATCH ME GO 65 (D,F) M Dods 5-7-7 Dale Gibson 93

3-1 Champagne Grandy, 5-1 Alpine Johnny, White Creek, 8-1 others.

4.20 WHORLTON HANDICAP
(£3,348: 1m 3f 214yd) (11)

1 (6) 000- CIRCUS COLOURS 28J (D,G) Mrs S Smith 4-10-0 K Darley 94
2 (5) 006- CIVIL LAW 28J (V,D,F,G) Mrs V Aconley 4-9-2 L Dettori 98
3 (10) 64-4 DEB'S BALL 13J (V,CD,F,G,S) D Moffatt 8-8-13 Darren Moffatt (5) 94
4 (1) 040- ON BROADWAY 275 Mrs A Swinbank 4-8-12 A Clark 98
5 (11) -100 SHARP SENSATION 61 (G) D Nicholls 4-8-8 Alex Greaves 92
6 (2) 545- KINOKO 168 (CD,G,S) K Hogg 6-8-7 A Culhane
7 (3) 20/ SANTARAY 14J T Donnelly 8-8-0 J Fanning —
8 (4) 4044 NOBLE MEASURE 7 (B) S Bowring 4-8-0 J Quinn 98
9 (8) 440- BUZZ-B-BABE 32J (B) B Ellison 4-8-0 A Mackay 97
10 (7) 43/ MAC RAMBLER 22J N Bycroft 7-7-7 J Lowe —
11 (9) 530- DON'T CRY 160 Don Enrico Incisa 6-7-7 Kim Tinkler 88

5-2 Deb's Ball, 3-1 Kinoko, 6-1 Circus Colours, 7-1 Civil Law, 8-1 Noble Measure, 8-1 Sharp Sensation, 10-1 Civil Law, 12-1 Buzz-B-Babe, 14-1 others.

4.50 SPRINGTIME LIMITED STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,669: 5f) (12)

1 (9) 050- BOLLIN NEIL 240 M H Easterby 8-11 M Birch 73
2 (1) 600- CHEEKY CHAPPY 175 (B) D Chapman 8-11 S Wood 75
3 (5) 306- CRAFTY CRICKETER 154 (B) R Voorspuy 8-11 N Adams 71
4 (8) 23-4 HENRY THE HAWK 78 (V) M Dods 8-11 S Webster 83
5 (2) 61-2 INDIAN DREAMER 6 (CD,G,S) M Bell 8-11 M Fenton (3) 87
6 (10) 000- LUCKY FOURTEEN 93 (D,G) D Chapman 8-11 J Fanning 86
7 (6) 55-0 ROCKY TWO 6 (D,G) B McMahon 8-11 A Mackay 83
8 (11) 0-15 DAUNTLESS FORT 39 (BF,G) B Murray 8-9 J Quinn 90
9 (4) 0-34 FLOATING TRIAL 75 (D,G) D Nicholls 8-6 Alex Greaves 84
10 (12) 00-6 PRINCESS SHERA 37 E Alston 8-6 K Fallon —
11 (3) 026- SPRING STAR 223 Mrs V Aconley 8-6 L Dettori 88
12 (7) 042- TUTU SIXTYSIX 140 (D,F,G) E Incisa 8-6 Kim Tinkler

3-1 Indian Dreamer, 4-1 Dauntless Fort, 5-1 Tutu Sixtysix, 6-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Bell, 5 winners from 17 runners, 29.4%; Mrs M Reveley, 14 from 62, 22.6%; T Barron, 19 from 100, 19.0%; B McMahon, 3 from 19, 15.8%; J Berry, 25 from 161, 15.5%; P Calver, 4 from 32, 12.5%.
JOCKEYS: L Dettori, 5 winners from 22 rides, 22.7%; K Darley, 29 from 152, 19.1%; J Carroll, 23 from 128, 18.0%; Alex Greaves, 10 from 66, 15.2%; J Weaver, 7 from 52, 13.5%; Darren Moffatt, 4 from 34, 11.8%.

WORCESTER

THUNDERER

2.10 Sound Carrier. 2.40 Pollerton's Pride. 3.10 Act Of Parliament. 3.40 Capability Brown. 4.10 Moriarty. 4.40 Dragons Den. 5.10 Uluru.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
3.10 ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

GOING: GOOD SIS

2.10 NEWLAND NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,154: 2m 5f 110yd) (12 runners)

1 1100 SKEOUGH 67 (F,G) J Webber 6-11-8 R Bellamy
2 0-31 SOUND CARRIER 146 F O Sherwood 6-11-8 J McCarthy (3)
3 PPP BALUSTRADE 62 B Stevens 7-11-2 W McFarland
4 /4 KALAKATE 58 J Bridger 9-11-2 B Powell
5 MISTER MOSS MAN C Nash 5-11-2 R Marley
6 P0-0 PERTEMPS JOBSHOP 7 K Bridgwater 8-11-2 N Williamson
7 P0- SURE SHOT NORMAN 85F G Jones 5-11-2 P McLoughlin (7)
8 00 THE SHAW TRADER 98 N Twiston-Davies 5-11-2 D Bridgwater
9 4/0 TRIPLE SENSATION 16 C Broad 7-11-2 Jacqui Oliver
10 3203 TITIAN GIRL 55 (B) Miss L Siddall 5-10-11 A Thornton (3)
11 00- TONY MURPHYS LADY 349 J Upson 8-10-11 R Supple
12 056 DUNLIR 11 P Radford 4-10-8 T Thompson (7)

4-5 Sound Carrier, 8-1 Skeough, 8-1 Kalakate, 12-1 Triple Sensation, 16-1 Mister Moss Man, 20-1 Titian Girl, The Shaw Trader, 25-1 others.

2.40 E.B.F. MARES NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,999: 2m 7f) (15)

1 2112 GILSTON LASS 161 (F,G) J King 7-11-10 T Jenks (3)
2 F60- SEASAMACAMILE 438 (S) R Buckler 7-11-4 B Powell
3 P4P0 PLAYFUL JULIET 4 (V,D,G,S) T Caldwell 6-11-3 Pat Caldwell
4 86P4 POLLERTON'S PRIDE 8 (G,S) W Clay 7-11-2 D Bridgwater
5 P34U JUST A SECOND 12 (V) C Drewe 9-10-10 S McNeill
6 5432 RINANNA BAY 49 R Alner 7-10-8 P Carey (7)
7 6540 OUTFIELD 23 (F) J Webber 6-10-8 G McCourt
8 5F32 SERDARLI 12 Miss L Shally 12-10-5 J Ryan
9 34PP STAPLEFORD LADY 20 R Manning 8-10-4 W McFarland
10 0PSP NEW PROBLEM 98 R Manning 7-10-4 C Maude
11 2-02 APRIL'S MODEL LADY 96 A J Wilson 8-10-3 N Williamson
12 P5FU HOW DOUDO 12 (S) J McConnochie 7-10-3 R Bellamy
13 4PP4 BRORA ROSE 11 (V,S) P Rodford 6-10-1 Miss S Cobden (7)
14 00/P ROSCOE'S GEMMA 21 N Thick 10-10-0 D Meredith (3)
15 0P00 CADOLIVE 14 G Ham 6-10-0 G Upton

7-2 Rinanna Bay, 4-1 Gilston Lass, 6-1 Serdarli, 8-1 Pollerton's Pride, 10-1 April's Model Lady, 14-1 How Doudo, 16-1 others.

3.10 BORCHESTER NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,000: 3m) (14)

1 -122 ACT OF PARLIAMENT 25 (F) K Bailey 6-11-8 N Williamson
2 2421 GENERAL SHOT 12 (D,S) W Clay 9-11-8 Diane Clay
3 0-PF AUGER BORE 7 B Forsey 6-11-2 S Burrough
4 -32P CALLEROSE 53 T Forster 7-11-2 B Powell
5 360 CATS RUN 19 J Upson 6-11-2 R Supple
6 4234 FLAPJACK LAD 41 (BF) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-2 D Bridgwater
7 P850 MISTY GREY 11 G Fierro 5-11-2 S Lycett (7)
8 /P-P RUFFINSWICK 86 P Leach 8-11-2 C Maude
9 0 ST MARTIN 18 D Fletcher 6-11-2 Mr J Wingfield Digby
10 -046 STORMY SWAN 19 R Mathew 8-11-2 S Smith Eccles
11 06 VENN BOY 27 W Turner 5-11-2 T Murphy (7)
12 1540 WOLF WINTER 125 (G) J Old 9-11-2 T Grantham
13 060 ARCHIE'S SISTER 18 R Dickin 5-10-11 D Meredith (3)
14 0 CHAPELSTREET BLUES 21 J Parkes 7-10-11 L Harvey

7-2 Act Of Parliament, 4-1 Flapjack Lad, 5-1 General Shot, Callerose, Wolf Winter, 10-1 Cats Run, 14-1 Archie's Sister, 16-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Catterick Bridge: 2.20 Unnab. 4.20 Buzz-B-Babe.

3.40 SONNY SOMERS HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,146: 2m 7f) (5)

1 U-PP CAPABILITY BROWN 13 (CD,F,G,S) M Pipe 7-12-0 G McCourt
2 2F1F GAY RUFFIAN 53 (C,BF,G,S) F O'Mahony 8-11-5 B Powell
3 240P SPARKLING FLAME 18 (G) N Henderson 10-10-10 M A Fitzgerald
4 4684 WINABUCK 7 (CD,F,G,S) R Dickin 11-10-2 D Meredith (3)
5 1FP6 MAN OF MYSTERY 14 (G,S) N Twiston-Davies 8-10-0 D Bridgwater

2-1 Capability Brown, 5-2 Gay Ruffian, 3-1 Sparkling Flame, 13-2 others.

4.10 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,421: 2m) (22)

1 451F KING ATHELSTAN 23 (D,BF,G) K Morgan 6-11-10 A S Smith
2 3401 BARTON ROYAL 41 (V,D,G) P Ritchens 4-11-8 Richard Guest
3 540/ ARJUNA 797 A Dunn 9-11-5 Mr Richard White (7)
4 4-P03 HAZEL CREST 15 (F) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-4 F Leahy (7)
5 56U2 LE BARON PERCHE 11 (11) C James 5-11-4 M A Fitzgerald
6 6101 SCARBA 13 (D,S) D Garraton 6-11-4 K Davies (7)
7 -335 SWIFT ROMANCE 12 G Barnett 6-11-3 Mr G Hogan (7)
8 P051 TEMPLE KNIGHT 14 (S) Miss C Johnsey 5-11-2 L Harvey
9 113F RUTH'S GAMBLE 12 (D,G) Mrs L Jewell 6-11-2 R Davis (3)
10 -4F4 WONDERFULL POLLY 16 P Nicholls 6-11-2 Guy Lewis (5)
11 0600 ALMANZAR 57 N Tinkler 4-11-7 G McCourt
12 2-06 JOHNS JOY 88F J Bridger 9-11-0 B Powell
13 4322 MORIARTY 12 (D,S) R Price 7-10-13 J McCarthy (3)
14 0440 STAR MARKET 13 (D,G,S) Mrs P Joynes 4-10-13 T Wall
15 F8U6 PALACE PARADE 6 (B) Mrs P Dutfield 4-10-12 N Dawe
16 0014 KOA 49 (G) N Twiston-Davies 4-10-11 D Bridgwater
17 P00 DYAB 39 C Williams 4-10-10 S Keightley
18 3452 ANDRATH 4 D Jones 6-10-7 D Meade
19 5505 ACROSS THE BOW 14 A Dunn 4-10-4 M Hourigan
20 0-00 GEORGE LANE 86 F Jordan 6-10-3 J Lodder
21 -0P3 FERRUFINO 35 P Rich 6-10-0 P McDermott
22 3000 CASTLE ORCHARD 16 P Hayward 10-10-0 A Procter (3)

5-1 Temple Knight, 6-1 King Athelstan, Scarba, 8-1 Hazel Crest, 10-1 others.

4.40 WESTERN COUNTIES HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,579: 2m 4f 110yd) (5)

1 222- GREEK FLUTTER 421 (G,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-12-0 F Leahy (7)
2 FP-5 PEACE OFFICER 8 (S) A Barrow 8-11-9 B Powell
3 F221 DRAGONS DEN 14 (CD,F,G,S) S Sherwood 8-11-2 G Upton
4 -0UR GLOVE PUPPET 88 (G) G Balding 9-10-12 M A Fitzgerald
5 3504 STEPFASTER 9 (D,F,G) Miss L Siddall 9-10-12 A Thornton (3)

4-5 Dragons Den, 7-4 Greek Flutter, 8-1 Stepfaster, 14-1 others.

5.10 GRANDSTAND HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,458: 3m) (14)

1 452F BUONARROTI 20 (D,G,S) J Old 7-12-0 T Grantham
2 9056 PRIME DISPLAY 33 (B,C,D,G,S) O Sherwood 8-11-8 J McCarthy (3)
3 1220 COURT CIRCULAR 14 (V,D,F,G) W Clay 5-10-9 Diane Clay
4 2122 HAPPY HORSE 18 (S) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 7-10-7 A Tory
5 /332 MAN FOR ALL SEASON 18 (B,S) P Hobbs 8-10-5 M Hourigan
6 5/03 PARLEZVOUSFRANCAIS 33 (C,F,S) M Pipe 10-10-4 J Lower
7 6-45 VICTOR BRAVO 33 (G) N Gaselee 7-10-4 R Supple
8 6P53 ULURU 7 (CD,G) C Nash 6-10-2 R Marley
9 F30F VOLCANIC DANCER 146 (D,F,S) Mrs N Macauley 8-10-0 A Thornton (3)
10 0P50 WELSH SIREN 49 (F,G) K Bailey 8-10-0 F Leahy (7)
11 0450 SIR CRUSTY 8 (C,D,F,G,S) D O'Neill 12-10-0 P Maddock (7)
12 5423 MARTELL BOY 14 (CD,S) D Burrows 7-10-0 R Davis (3)
13 1FPF CROFT MILL 18 (G,S) Miss H Knight 8-10-0 M A Fitzgerald
14 014P ONE TO NOTE 18 (S) M Muggeridge 10-10-0 M Ahern

6-1 Man For All Season, 7-1 Buonarroti, Uluru, 8-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: O Sherwood, 25 winners from 68 runners, 36.8%; P Nicholls, 8 from 24, 33.3%; M Pipe, 40 from 128, 31.3%; Miss H Knight, 12 from 40, 30.0%; P Hobbs, 22 from 103, 21.4%.
JOCKEYS: M Hourigan, 5 winners from 28 rides, 17.9%; S Smith Eccles, 5 from 31, 16.1%; G McCourt, 13 from 84, 15.5%; B Powell, 18 from 124, 14.5%; N Williamson, 11 from 82, 13.4%.

Sharp Prod for Tokyo

SHARP Prod and Sayyedati have been selected to take part in the £690,407-added Keio Hai Spring Cup at Tokyo racecourse on April 23. Sharp Prod gained his place in the line-up as a replacement for the Australian-trained Schillaci, who is injured.

The Queen's Sharp Prod, trained by Lord Huntingdon, is a seasoned traveller, having won listed races at Longchamp and Munich last year. Sayyedati, last season's 1,000 Guineas winner, is trained by Clive Brittain, who landed a big prize in the Far East with Jupiter Island in the 1986 Japan Cup.

Ladbrokes
RACING SERVICE
0891 222 + LIVE
ALL TRACKS 111 123
CATTERICK 101 201
ASCOT 102 202
WORCESTER 103 203
Calls cost 36p/min cheap rate, 48p/min other times. Harrow, HA3 7JW

RAPIDE RACELINE
FULL RESULTS SERVICE
0891-168-168
0891 168+ BEFORE THE OFF RESULTS COMMENTARY
CATTERICK 101 201 301
ASCOT 102 202 302
WORCESTER 103 203 303
IRISH 120 220 320

Former England manager returns full of confidence to take up Molineux challenge

Taylor sets play-off target at Wolves

By Peter Ball

ROLAND LEON



Taylor, delighted to be back in club football after his ill-fated reign in charge of England, surveys the Molineux scene after his appointment as manager of Wolves

FOUR months after resigning as England manager amid unprecedented contumely, Graham Taylor is back in football. He has taken over as manager of Wolverhampton Wanderers with the brief to restore the Endsleigh League club to its former glories as one of the country's leading teams.

"There are only a handful of clubs I would have come back into football with," Taylor said at the press conference to announce his appointment yesterday. "As you know, I flew back from a working holiday in Spain for this job, but I'd have walked back from Spain, if it were possible to, for Wolves."

In spite of Wolves' position halfway up the Endsleigh League first division, the club's resources make it one of the most sought-after jobs in English football, and Jonathan Hayward, the chairman, revealed that the club had been approached by over half the managers in the Premier League, "directly or indirectly".

Taylor, too, had had no shortage of offers. "Immediately I left England, a few clubs approached me but I didn't feel the time was right then," he said. "I needed that period of recuperation."

The time is now right, but he still faces a demanding start. With the multi-millionaire Sir Jack Hayward behind them, Wolves had been expected to be among the leaders in the race for the first division championship this season, but injuries to key players, Geoff Thomas and Steve Bull, undermined their challenge, and at the moment they are on the fringe of the pack competing for play-off places.

"I look at Blackburn two years ago when they had fallen out of things, and then they won at Plymouth on the last day to scrape into the last play-off place," Taylor added. "They won the play-offs, and look at them now."

With both having wealthy men pouring money into the clubs they supported as boys, the parallels with Blackburn are unavoidable. If Taylor does succeed in making Wolves the Blackburn of the Black Country, it will effectively silence the critics of his appointment locally where his failures with England, which earned him the cruel nickname Turnip, are remembered.

There is no reason why Taylor should not succeed. Whatever his tribulations with England, he had an excellent record in club football, taking Watford from the fourth division to second place in the old first division and rebuilding Aston Villa, a club which, in his own words, was "a shambles" when he took over.

Providing he has not been soured by his England experience, Wolves should provide the perfect vehicle for him. Yesterday he appeared once again the positive, bouncy manager of old, full of confidence and never short of a word or three.

He insists that his England experience has not affected him, in spite of the often bitter personal criticism he received. "I wouldn't be here if my confidence in my ability had been dented," he said.

Club football, with its day-to-day involvement with players, may be his forte, and he was clearly relishing his return yesterday. "I can't wait to get back to the everyday contact with players and the humour you get in the dressing-room," he said.

Taylor made much of Wolves' status as a big club, and self-evidently one already on the move with Hayward's money driving it forward, but even beyond that the club has always seemed his spiritual home. Vilified for his long-ball tactics at Watford, he owed much to the concepts of Wing Commander Reep, who was also the adviser of Stan Cullis in Wolves' heyday. It is tempting to foresee the two coming together in a happy marriage.

If he is ultimately to recreate the old Wolves style complete with fast-raiding wingers, he already has one vital ingredient — an old-fashioned, bustling English centre-forward in Bull, whom he once tried to purchase for Aston Villa. He is now doubtless happy that Wolves turned down that approach.

Such speculation is for the future, however. For the moment Taylor is looking only to the play-offs, and he is too wise to try to make any major changes in style or personnel while they are still a feasible target.

"I'm not here to make changes from day one," he said. "The next six weeks and 11 games are all about trying to pinch a play-off place, and everything else is on standby until after that. It's a long shot. Can we do it?"

Yesterday he made all the right noises, praising the work of the players, his predecessor Graham Turner and Peter Shirtliff, whose temporary reign as caretaker ended at Bolton last night.

"Graham Turner did so much for this club," he said. "I'm hoping to put the icing on the cake which he baked."

FACT FILE

BORN: Worksop, September 15, 1944.

EDUCATED: Scunthorpe Grammar School.

PLAYING CAREER: Full back for Grimsby 1962-68 (189 League appearances); Lincoln 1968-72 (150 League appearances). Career ended at 28 by hip injury.

COACHING CAREER: At 21 became youngest coach to qualify for full FA badge.

MANAGERIAL CAREER: At 28, youngest manager in Football League when he took control of Lincoln in December 1972. Guided Lincoln to fourth division title in 1976. Also managed Watford (June 1977 to May 1987), Aston Villa (May 1987 to July 1990) and England (July 1990 to November 1993). Guided Watford from fourth division to first division between 1978 and 1982; they were first division runners-up in 1983 and FA Cup finalists in 1984. Guided Aston Villa from second division to first division in 1988; they were runners-up in first division in 1990.

ENGLAND RECORD: played 38, won 18, drawn 13, lost seven; goals for 62, against 32.

Ferguson's test of nerve in Liverpool return

By Keith Pike

WHEN they surrendered a 3-0 lead to Liverpool at Anfield 12 weeks ago, Manchester United could console themselves with the plaudits that rightly followed their part in the outstanding match of the FA Carling Premiership so far this season. A 13-point lead over Blackburn Rovers was not to be sneezed at, either.

Yet as Rovers have whittled away that lead, the two points United, and the manager Alex Ferguson, dropped to Liverpool have become significant. If they repeat the defensive failings in the return tonight, United's declining morale might suffer a critical blow.

Liverpool have yet to win away from home in five starts under Roy Evans but would take distinct pleasure in further weakening the champions' position. Even a repeat of the 2-2 draw at Old Trafford last season would encourage Rovers' title aspirations before their meeting with United at Ewood Park on Saturday.

But if it is a two-horse race at the top, there is a stampede to avoid at the bottom. Swindon Town are seemingly doomed, but after Sheffield United's defiant 3-2 victory over West Ham United at Brammall Lane on Monday only eight points separate the seven clubs above. Four are in action tonight, with Everton and Chelsea away to Aston Villa and Sheffield Wednesday respectively, and Southampton taking on Oldham Athletic in a match of desperate importance at the Dell.

West Ham's declining fortunes threaten to destroy what had been a promising first season back in the top division. They have now taken only five points out of a possible 24, and from ninth place in December, when talk was of a top-six finish, the club are fighting for survival.

Likewise Everton, who have taken 11 points out of 27 since Mike Walker took charge. They have already lost once to Villa and unless their front men can rediscover their form could be relegated for the first time since 1954.

Conversely, Oldham have lost only one of their last 11 games and Chelsea have won six of their last seven. Glenn Hoddle, who scored his first goal as player-manager against West Ham last Saturday, may well play from the start against Wednesday, whom they beat in an FA Cup replay last month.

Hosts struggling to reach finals

By Keith Pike

EGYPT, Mali and Nigeria have become the first teams to qualify for the quarter-finals of the African Nations Cup. Their paths to the knock-out stages could hardly have been more varied, with one team advancing thanks to a handsome victory, another without playing, and the third despite losing.

Egypt's 4-0 win over Gabon at the El Zouiten stadium in Tunis meant that they and Nigeria qualified from group B, while Gabon became the first team to be eliminated from the tournament. Mali, who were beaten 1-0 by Zaire, also went through despite their defeat, a result that left Tunisia, the hosts, struggling to qualify from group A.

The fastest goal in the tournament's history put Egypt on the way to their comfortable victory. Ayman Mansour scored after just 22 seconds, and a free kick from Hamza El Gamal, a defender, had the north Africans 2-0 ahead at half-time. Two goals from Bashir Abdel Samad after the interval added to Gabon's misery. Gabon, making their first appearance in the finals competition, packed their bags after failing to score in two matches.

Mali, surprise 2-0 winners over Tunisia in the opening game in group A on Saturday, failed to reproduce that form against Zaire, but are still guaranteed a place in the last eight.

Lemba Basaula, who last played for Zaire more than two years ago, scored the winner three minutes into the second half with a fierce shot from the edge of the Malian penalty area. But Zaire had defender Ntumba Danga sent off two minutes from the end and must make changes for the decisive match today against Tunisia, who dismissed their coach, Youssef Zouaoui, on Monday and replaced him with Fawzi Benzerti.

The hosts must win by two goals to reach the quarter-finals at the expense of Zaire, who can qualify with a draw.

Pressure mounts on Monaco

Keith Pike looks at the struggle between the French and Spanish champions to avoid AC Milan in the European Cup semi-finals

THE first task has already been routinely accomplished by AS Monaco and Barcelona, whose victories a fortnight ago guaranteed them a place in the last four of the European Cup. A more urgent job begins tonight: making sure AC Milan are avoided when the competition reverts to a knockout basis on April 27.

The change in the format of the Champions' League this season means that the winners of group A can relish a home tie in the semi-finals. Whoever finishes second will almost certainly face a trip to the Guiseppe Meazza stadium in Milan and likely elimination at the hands of Europe's top club side.

The matches tonight — Monaco are away to Spartak Moscow, Barcelona at home to Galatasaray — are not decisive because the two leading clubs, level on points in group A and with identical goalscoring records, finish the league stage in direct opposition in France a fortnight later. But the pressure on both to win is immense.

If anything, Monaco will be the more anxious. While Barcelona remain among the likely winners of the Spanish league thus have an alternative route to more European riches, Monaco trail Paris Saint-Germain by 16 points in France and were eliminated from the French Cup in a penalty shoot-out against Marseilles earlier this month. "The Champions' League is all we have left and, in a way, it's not so bad because our only option is to give it all we have," Arsene Wenger, the Monaco coach, said.

Spartak, beaten 5-1 at the Nou Camp two weeks ago after taking a third-minute lead, are promising sterner resistance this time around: "We have played weakly and against Monaco we will try to prove Spartak deserved their place in the Champions' League," Oleg Romantsev, their coach, said.

Goal difference could yet prove crucial and Johann Cruyff, the Barcelona coach, might be tempted to give Michael Laudrup a rare taste of European action alongside Romario against the Turks. The Denmark striker has usually been the Barcelona player to suffer under the foreign players ruling.

Victory at home over Anderlecht tonight will guarantee Milan home advantage in the semi-finals if FC Porto fail to beat Werder Bremen in Germany. It should not be beyond them, even if their defeat against Napoli on Sunday might have slightly dented their confidence.

Anderlecht have given up all hope of qualifying. "We will put everything into the [Belgian] title from now on," Johan Boskamp, their coach, said yesterday. "The Champions' League is not a priority any more."

☐ Jorge Valdano, the Argentinian coach, has been offered the chance to take charge of Real Madrid next season, Spanish newspapers reported yesterday. Valdano, who led Tenerife to fifth place last season and a place in the Uefa Cup, has reached a preliminary agreement for a three-year contract with Madrid, it was claimed. Real Madrid recently dismissed Benito Floro as coach.

DETAILS

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AS Monaco	4	3	0	1	9	3	6
Barcelona	4	2	2	0	9	3	6
Galatasaray	4	0	2	2	0	5	2
Spartak Moscow	4	0	2	2	4	11	2

RESULTS: Galatasaray 0 Barcelona 0; Monaco 4 Moscow 1; Barcelona 2 Monaco 0; Moscow 0 Galatasaray 0; Moscow 2 Barcelona 0; Monaco 3 Galatasaray 0; Barcelona 5 Moscow 1; Galatasaray 0 Monaco 2.

Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	4	2	2	0	6	2	6
FC Porto	4	2	0	2	5	6	4
Werder Bremen	4	1	1	2	9	9	3
Anderlecht	4	1	1	2	4	7	3

RESULTS: Anderlecht 0 Milan 0; Porto 3 Bremen 2; Bremen 5 Anderlecht 3; Milan 3 Porto 0; Milan 2 Bremen 1; Anderlecht 1 Porto 0; Porto 2 Anderlecht 0; Bremen 1 Milan 1.



Laudrup: anxious

Tolerant referee suspended in Rio

By Our Sports Staff

TWO Brazilian referees have been suspended following controversial performances at the weekend. Edson Costa was banned for 20 days for being "over-tolerant" during Sunday's derby between Fluminense and Vasco da Gama in the Rio de Janeiro championship, the Rio federation said.

Jorge Emiliano was given the same punishment for publicly blaming a linesman for a controversial decision in another Rio game on Saturday. Ten days ago, Emiliano was warned to cut down on his theatrical gestures.

A federation spokesman said Costa had failed to send off two players who exchanged punches early in the game, which finished 0-0.

The match was marred by violence, players disputing almost every refereeing decision and a spitting incident that earned the offender only a yellow card.

The Rio federation has launched a drive to improve refereeing standards this year after revelations of a match-fixing scandal involving referees and directors. Five referees and four directors have been formally accused of fraud by federal police and the investigation is in the hands of state prosecutors, who will decide whether to press formal charges.

Earlier this year, another referee, Aloisio Viug, one of the five named by police, was suspended for 40 days after his handling of the Vasco v Flamengo derby outraged both teams.

Neither Costa nor Emiliano has been mentioned in match-fixing allegations.

☐ Leeds United's FA Carling Premiership home game against Manchester United on April 13 is a 41,500 sell-out — even without the suspended Eric Cantona. The Frenchman's five-match ban denies him a return to Elland Road against his old club, but all tickets have been sold a fortnight in advance. The crowd will be Leeds's biggest for a home league game since December 1977.



BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (26837)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (64958924)
9.05 Children's BBC beginning with **The Legend of Prince Valiant** (r) (s) (3199653) **9.30 Why Don't You . . . ?** (s) (25498)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5719740) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (s) (8296498)
10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (91267382)
12.15 Pebble Mill. The guest is Trevor McDonald (s) (1516295) ***12.55 Regional News** and weather (20087740)*
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (20092)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (67084566) **1.50 The Great British Quiz** (s) (67088382)
2.15 Racing from Ascot. live coverage of the 2.30, 3.00 and 3.35 races (s) (s) (175924)
3.50 Bitsa. Ideas for recycling household junk (s) (6904301) **4.10 Popeye and Son** (3940081) **4.20 The Animals of Farthing Wood.** (Ceefax) (s) (9148276) **4.45 Gulf.** Episode three of the four-part story by Robert Westall (s) (7690943)
5.00 Newsround (2819585) **5.10 Dark Season.** The final episode of the science fiction drama (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6217837)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (976856)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (547)
6.30 Regional news magazines (127)
7.00 The Rock 'n' Roll Years – the 80s. Music and headline news from 1985. (Ceefax) (s) (6363)
7.30 Here and Now. Current affairs series (951)
8.00 The Detectives. Comedy series starring Jasper Carrott and Robert Powell as a pair of incompetent policemen. (Ceefax) (s) (5011)
8.30 Luv. Carla Lane's comedy series starring Michael Angelis, Sue Johnston and Peter Caffrey. (Ceefax) (s) (1818)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Peter Sissons. (Ceefax) *Regional news and weather (2382)*

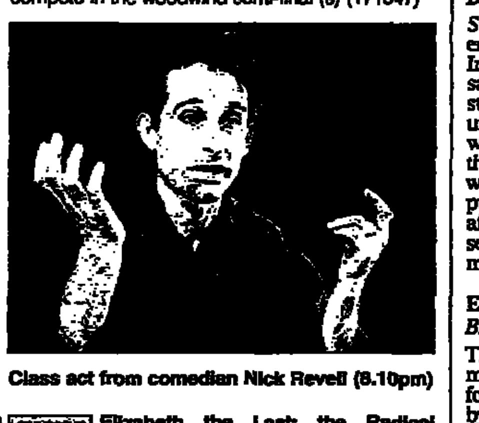


Caring consultant Ivan Phair (centre) (9.30pm)

9.30 CHOICE **QED: Trauma.** (Ceefax) (s) (710635)
10.20 Sportsnight. Football: highlights of an FA Premiership game and news from the European competitions; *Cricket: details of England's progress* in the third Test in Trinidad (4489479)
11.50 The Easter Stories: Judas's Tale. The man who betrayed Christ gives his side of the story. With Craig Charles. (Ceefax) (s) (809160)
12.05am FILM: A New Leaf (1971) starring Walter Matthau and Elaine May. Delightful black comedy about a playboy, having spent his inherited fortune, who woos a dim-witted heiress. Directed by Elaine May (886580). **Wales:** (to 12.45) James Kelman No Such Thing as Bad Language
1.45 Weather (4374342). Ends at **1.50**
2.15 BBC Select: Accountancy Television. Scrambled (134257) **3.15-3.45 Legal Network Television.** Scrambled (61509) **5.45-6.00 BBC Select: Business Monthly** (6904122)

BBC2

6.20 Open University
8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax) (4318295)
8.15 Westminster Daily (3749011)
9.00 FILM: Rampage (1963) starring Robert Mitchum, Elsa Martinelli and Jack Hawkins. Jungle adventure directed by Phil Karlson (40452924)
10.35 FILM: Rio Grande (1950, b/w) starring John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara and Claude Jarman Jr. Western drama directed by John Ford (61915924)
12.15 Who's a Clever Boy? Talking pet birds (r) (6295634) ***12.30 Signs of the Times.** Mothers and daughters talk about each other's living rooms* (r) (9784214) **1.20 Gordon T. Gopher** (r) (55587586) **1.30 King Rollo** (r) (55151479) **1.35 Ever Thought of Sport?** Learning to dive (r) (85745081)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **A Human Monster with Inwardly Curved Extremities?** The story of four sufferers of the condition arthrogryposis (r) (6974671) **2.35 CountryFile** (r) (s) (8481924)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster Live.** (Ceefax) (5077419) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (9466566)
4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (740)
4.30 People of the Valley. Welsh drama. English subtitles (s) (924). **Wales:** It Began With Iron
5.00 Shot at Dawn. The story of the campaign to clear the name of First World War soldiers shot for desertion (4769)
5.30 Food and Drink (r) (s) (276) **6.00 Star Trek.** Classic science fiction adventures (r). (Ceefax) (505045) **6.50 Def II: Reportage.** A look at young film-makers at work (s) (296498)
7.20 Seven Last Words from the Cross. Scottish composer James MacMillan's interpretation of Christ's shortest utterence, "I thirst" (130653)
7.30 Young Musician of the Year. Twelve musicians compete in the woodwind semi-final (s) (171547)



Class act from comedian Nick Revell (8.10pm)

8.10 CHOICE **Elizabeth the Last: the Radical Option.** (Ceefax) (376635)
9.00 CHOICE **Screen Two: O Mary This London.** (Ceefax) (s) (1653)
10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (859295)
11.15 Late Theatre presented by Robert Dawson Scott. A report from Manchester on Peter Brooks's production of Oliver Sacks's play *The Man Who* (s) (358276). **Wales:** Pitch Invasion 11.25-11.55 Shot in a Shoebox **11.55 Weather** (164634)
12.00 Going to School in Japan. Stress in the Japanese education system (2894073)
12.25am-12.55 The All Electric Home (2864832)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. VideoPlus+ can be used with most videos. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. For more details call VideoPlus on 0839 121204 (calls cost 39p/min cheap rate, 48p/min at other times) or write to VideoPlus+, Acomex Ltd, 5 Ivory House, Plantation Wharf, London SW11 3TN. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

CHOICE



Dubliners Tighe, Seagrave and Barry (BBC2, 9.00pm)

Screen Two: O Mary This London
BBC2, 9.00pm

Three young Dubliners make their first trip to London and discover that the streets are not paved with gold. On the contrary, the capital seems entirely populated by crooks, charlatans and perverts. In the words of Mary, who is pregnant and has come for an abortion, "it's full of mad people, England — it's a mental home from start to finish". The scenario by Shane Connaughton, co-writer of *My Left Foot*, is clearly meant to win sympathy for the trio. But neither Mary, nor her boyfriend Bimbo, nor his friend Mickey has money or work and you feel much of their woe is self-inflicted. At least there can be no argument about the vibrant performances of newcomers Oba Seagrave, Jason Barry and Dylan Tighe.

QED: Trauma
BBC1, 9.30pm

Superficially this film about the accident and emergency department of Staffordshire Royal Infirmary is a real-life version of Casualty. There is the same rush of bloodied victims, the same overstretched staff doing their best to cope. But the casualty unit is unique in Britain, being led by a team of consultants who provide round-the-clock cover. Patients receive the best possible expertise and lives can be saved which otherwise might be lost. That is the theory. It is put to the test when 16-year-old Tommy is admitted after being badly hurt in a car crash. The trauma unit seems a splendid idea but, as one of the team says, most consultants do not relish being on the shop floor.

Elizabeth the Last: The Radical Option
BBC2, 8.10pm

The pilot for an occasional BBC2 series on topical matters gives a platform for republicans to put the case for the abolition of the British monarchy. They are led by Professor Stephen Haseler, who expands on the argument of *his* recent book that the monarchy *is* not just expensive and irrelevant but at the heart of the British disease. A second film, by the comedian Nick Revell, takes a disrespectful look at the British obsession with class and examines its links with monarchy and hierarchy. In the final part of the programme Haseler faces supporters and critics in a studio debate chaired by Jeremy Paxman.

Food File
Channel 4, 8.30pm

Amanda Ursell, joined tonight by Marie Helvin and John Fashanu, returns with a new series of the food and health show. The magazine format embraces four short items, culminating in a "take five" challenge. This stems from American research suggesting that we should consume five portions of fruit and vegetables every day. The British average is only half this, with the Scots, who have the world's highest rate of heart disease, among the worst offenders. Otherwise the programme has a continental flavour. We learn how to make ratatouille and hear how the French are spurning supermarkets. **Peter Waymark**

CARLTON

6.00 GMTV (8641856)
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw. Quiz (s) (3195837) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8272818)
10.00 Step by Step. American comedy series (86160)
10.30 This Morning. Weekday magazine. With Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (32908189) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7863634)
12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (9955672)
12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (9930363)
1.25 Home and Away. Australian family drama. (Teletext) (57597276) **1.55 The Chrystal Rose Show.** The concluding part of a investigation into the battle of the sexes (s) (75840635)
2.25 A Country Practice. Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s) (93449127) **2.50 The Young Doctors.** Hospital drama (6282127)
3.20 ITN News headlines (8646059) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8638030)
3.30 Tots TV (r) (s) (4688943) **3.40 The Riddlers** (r) (9464108) **3.50 The Adventures of Grady Greenspace** (4679059) **4.05 Scooby Doo** (r) (8990586) **4.15 Terror Towers.** Comedy horror game show (s) (109230) **4.45 Tiny Toon Adventures** (2014276)
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (4219030)
5.40 Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (224030)
6.00 London Tonight (Teletext) (22301)
7.00 This Is Your Life presented by Michael Aspel. (Teletext) (s) (1059)



Kevin Kennedy cuddles Tracy Brabin (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Can Curly (Kevin Kennedy) find romance with Tricia (Tracy Brabin)? (Teletext) (479)
8.00 The Bill: Pig in the Middle. DC Woods becomes embroiled in a battle between rival crack dealing gangs. (Teletext)
8.30 September Song. Drama series starring Michael Williams and Russ Abbot as disparate friends. With Diana Quick and Diane Keen. (Teletext) (s)
9.00 Peak Practice: Enemy Within. Dr Beth Glover becomes the focus of anger for a father whose son is rushed to hospital with suspected meningitis. (Teletext) (s)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (98856) ***10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (349943)*
10.40 The Champions' League – Highlights. Tonight's European cup action (256059)
11.40 FILM: Used Cars (1980) starring Kurt Russell, Jack Warden and Gerrit Graham. Comedy about two brothers who are rival used car salesmen. Directed by Robert Zemeckis (447450)
1.40am Hollywood Report. Showbusiness gossip (s) (1709325)
2.10 The Chrystal Rose Show (r) (7149899)
2.40 The Album Show presented by Lynn Parsons (s) (7116054) **3.35 Videofashion** (98686615)
4.00 Reap the Whirlwind. Drama (r) (72580)
5.00 America's Top Ten (r) (s) (59257)
5.30 ITN Morning News (32431)

CHANNEL 4

6.35 The Adventures of T-Rex (r) (3389905)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (43943)
9.00 King Arthur and the Nights of Justice (r) (75905) **9.30 Sharky and George** (r) (1814856)
9.55 California Dreams. American teenage drama series (r) (4956276) **10.20 The Adventures of Super Mario Brothers** (r) (1474108) **10.40 Gamesmaster.** Video games review (r) (8130924) **11.10 Tintin** Animated adventures of Hergé's hero (r) (5002160)
11.35 The Legend of White Fang Another adventure for Jack London's canine hero (r) (8652127)
12.05 House to House. Political magazine (3457059)
12.30 Sesame Street Early learning entertainment (35092) **1.30 The Magic Roundabout** followed by **Mr Men, Quaq Quao** and **Musti** (11295)
2.00 FILM: Little Women (1933, b/w) starring Katharine Hepburn and Joan Bennett. Louisa M Alcott's story of four sisters growing up in a small Massachusetts town during the Civil War. Directed by George Cukor (20805127) **4.05 The Three Stooges** in *Mutts to You* (b/w) (3228943)
4.30 Countdown (Teletext) (s) (932)
***5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show.** The guest is Fay* Farron, a private investigator, with advice on finding long-lost loved ones. (Teletext) (s) (1310450)
5.50 Laurel and Hardy. Animated (932653)
6.00 Mork and Mindy. American comedy series starring Robin Williams (r) (585) **6.30 A Different World.** American campus comedy (s) (837)
***7.00 Channel 4 News** (Teletext) and weather (494769)*
7.50 French Lessons. A French view of life in Britain (Teletext) (641479)
8.00 Brookside. Topical soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (8721)



Marie Helvin as a model greengrocer (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE **Food File.** (Teletext) (s) (7856)
***9.00 Dispatches.** A report from a French secondary* school. (Teletext) (945009)
9.45 NEW **French Letters.** A four-part series in which journalist and film-maker Nick Danziger focuses on the France that tourists never see. Tonight he is with the fire brigade based on a notorious housing estate in a Paris suburb where fire-fighting is only one of the hazards they have to deal with (178634)
10.00 The Golden Girls. American comedy series (r). (Teletext) (980479)
10.35 Absolutely. Off-beat comedy. With Morwenna Banks, John Sparkes, Jack Docherty and Moray Hunter (r). (Teletext) (s) (123382) **11.10 Moviewatch** (r) (s) (797566)
11.40 Extreme Asia. Asian youth magazine (600301)
12.15am Flying Blind Comedy series (78899)
12.45 L.A. Law. American courtroom drama series (r) (4702306)
1.40 L.A. Requiem. Errol Morris's affectionate look at how Los Angeles residents treat bereavement (r) (s) (3942257). Ends at **2.40**

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 4.00am Bruno Brookes (FM only) **7.00** Steve Wright **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Emma Freud **2.00pm** Mark Goodier **4.00** Johnnie Walker **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** *Windbags (r)* **9.30** D Energy with Normski **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Angela Rippon **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** Chris Stuart **7.00** Folk on 2 **8.00** Barn Dance **8.30** Lucie Skeaping's Early Music **9.00** Isla St Clair **9.30** Nigel Ogden **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.00** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra **7.35** Trevor Brooking's Football Night **10.00** News Talk **11.00** Night Extra **12.00** After Hours **2.00-5.00am** Rod Sharp

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** *Fruhmagazin* **5.00** Newshour **6.00** News in German **6.03** Morgenmagazin **6.27** News in German **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.10** British News **7.15** The World Today **7.30** Meridian **8.00** News **8.15** Off the Shelf: Her Turn **8.30** Development '94 **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** The Dance Selection **9.30** Screenplay **10.00** News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** Country Style **10.30** What's News? **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News Summary **11.01** Omnibus **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** Newsdesk **12.30pm** Meridian **1.00** News **1.10** Words of Faith **1.15** New Ideas **1.35** Give Us Our Daily Bread **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.00** Newshour **3.00** News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Off the Shelf. Her Turn **3.45** Good Books **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News in German **4.35** Heute Aktuell **5.00** World and British News **5.15** BBC English **6.00** News **6.05** *World Business Report* **6.15** *The World Today* **6.30** News and features in German **8.00** News **8.05** Outlook **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **9.15** The World Today **9.30** Assignment **10.00** Newshour **11.00** World News **11.05** World Business Report **11.15** Sports International **11.45** Sports Roundup **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Multitrack 2 **1.00** News **1.10** British News **1.15** Ray On Record **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Waveguide **2.40** Book Choice **2.45** The Farming World **3.00** Newsdesk **3.30** Sports International **4.00** Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Joan Thirkettle **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Sarah Ward **7.00** Book Browse **8.00** Evening Concert: Dvořák and Strauss **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** André Leon

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Graham Dene **4.00** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** N.J Williams **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Paul Coyte

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (8272818) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News and Weather (7863634) **1.55** A Country Practice (67072721) **2.20-2.50** Gardening Time (93431108) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (8638030) **5.10-5.40** Swot or Wot? (4219030) **6.00** Home and Away (205011) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather and Anglia News (611189) **10.30-10.40** Anglia News and Weather (349943) **11.40** Thunder Run (901547) **1.00am** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (73325) **1.30** Night Caller (69528) **3.00** The Album Show (2076493) **3.55** Jobfinder (1099783) **4.30-5.30** Sport AM (77035)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8272818) **1.55** Shortland Street (67072721) **2.20** Gardening Time (93431108) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (6282127) **3.25-3.30** Central News (8638030) **5.10-5.40** Swot or Wot? (4219030) **6.00** Home and Away (205011) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (611189) **8.00-10.00** Karate Kid II (8295) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (349943) **11.40** Bodies of Evidence (458740) **12.40am** Hollywood Report (3255561) **1.10** The Album Show (7515783) **2.10** Cue the Music (2443615) **3.05** BPM (2075764) **4.00** Get Stuffed (49913290) **4.10** Jobfinder (3442696) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2696493)

VARIATIONS

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (67072721) **2.20-2.50** Gardening Time (93431108) **5.10-5.40** Movies, Games and Videos (4219030) **5.55** Home and Away (965740) **6.25-7.00** HTV News (611189) **8.00-10.00** Karate Kid II (8295) **11.40** C.A.T. Squad - Python Wolf (711547) **1.30am** Night Caller (69528) **3.00** The Album Show (2076493) **3.55** Jobfinder (1099783) **4.30-5.30** Sport AM (77035)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (611189) **10.30-10.40** HTV News and Weather (349943)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (67072721) **2.20** Gateways (93431108) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (6282127) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (943) **6.30-7.00** The Village (295) **11.40** Along the South Downs Way (924818) **12.10am-1.40** Film: Men On a String (6542126)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Tyne Tees News and Weather (8272818) **12.20pm** Tyne Tees News and Weather / Bilsdale: Network North (7872382) **12.25-12.30** Joblink (7871653) **1.55** A Country Practice (67072721) **2.20-2.50** The De Medici Kitchen (93431108) **3.25-3.30** Tyne Tees News / Bilsdale: Network North (8638030) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today / Network North (644382) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (295) **10.30-10.40** Tyne Tees News and Weather (349943) **11.40** Meditations for Holy Week (567672) **11.55-1.40pm** Weekend War (927063) **2.10am-2.40** Videofashion (7149899) **3.40** Noisy Mothers (2885615) **4.35-5.30** Jobfinder (9645122)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry Latest (8272818) **12.20pm-12.30** Westcountry Latest (7863634) **1.55** Take the High Road (75840635) **2.25-2.55** The Best of Ron (93430479) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry Latest (8638030) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (22301) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry Latest (349943) **11.40** C.A.T. Squad - Python Wolf (711547) **1.30am** Night Caller (69528) **3.00** The Album Show (2076493) **3.55** Jobfinder (1099783) **4.30-5.30** Sport AM (77035)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (8272818) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Bilsdale: Network North (7863634) **1.55** A Country Practice (67072721) **2.20-2.50** The De Medici Kitchen (93431108) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bilsdale: Network North (8638030) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (644382) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (295) **10.30-10.40** Calendar News and Weather (349943) **11.40** Meditations for Holy Week (567672) **11.55-1.40pm** Weekend War (927063) **2.10am-2.40** Videofashion (7149899) **3.40** Noisy Mothers (2885615) **4.35-5.30** Jobfinder

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (43943) **9.00** King Arthur And The Nights Of Justice (75905) **9.30** Sharky And George (1814856) **9.55** California Dreams (4956276) **10.20** The Adventures Of Super Mario Brothers (1474108) **10.40** Gamesmaster (8130924) **11.10** Tintin (5002160) **11.35** The Legend Of White Fang (8652127) **12.05pm** The Lone Ranger (3457059) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (9953214) **12.55** Sesame Street (3218769) **1.55** The Weaker Sex (84820653) **3.30** The Great Outdoors (301) **4.00** Slot 23 (3045635) **4.05** Sici A Siac (6585128) **4.15** Now A Ned (6895932) **4.25** Mega (5339837) **4.40** Anifail (7675634) **5.00** Phenom (9837) **5.30** Countdown (672) **6.00** Newyddion (392011) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (294030) **6.25** Heno (642059) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (2301) **7.30** Teulu'r Tir (721) **8.00** Glowyr (8721) **8.30** Newyddion (7856) **9.00** A55 (5585) **10.00** Brookside (96498) **10.30** Pascali's Island (61573214) **12.25am** Dispatches (9991257)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: Modern Literature **6.55** Weather
7.00 On Air: Purcell; Ravel; Strauss; Chopin; Dvořák; Britten
9.00 Composer of the Week: Poulenc
10.00 Midweek Choice: Wagner; Victoria; Busoni; Bach; Parry; Soler; Haydn; Liszt
12.00 Haydn and Françaix (r)
1.00pm News 1.05 Alban Berg Quartet performs Erich Urbanner (String Quartet No 4); Beethoven (String Quartet *in A minor*, Op 132)
2.00 Record Review (r)
3.30 French Lute Suites, performed by Jakob Lindberg
4.00 Choral Evensong
5.00 The Music Machine: Errollyn Wallen visits the Premises, a studio in east London
5.15 In Tune: Shostakovich; Bernstein
6.00 Rush-Hour Concert: Live from the Wigmore Hall, London. Richard Baker introduces music with a cinematic flavour
7.00 Bach: St Matthew Passion. *Recorded at King's College* Chapel, Cambridge. With Emma Kirkby, soprano, Michael Chance, countertenor, Martyn Hill, tenor, David Thomas, bass
10.00 More Than Meets the Eye: See Choice
10.20 A Tribute to Verlaine: Music by Debussy to mark the anniversary of the birth of the poet Paul Verlaine. L'isle joyeuse (Cécile Ousset, piano); Ariettes oubliées (Nathalie Stutzmann, contralto, Cathérine Collard, piano)
10.45 Night Waves: A report on the fifteenth International Celtic Film and TV Festival in Derry
11.30 Ensemble: Michael Roll, *piano, performs Chopin* (Scherzo No 1 in B minor, Op 20; Nocturne in F, Op 15 No 1; Scherzo No 4 in E, Op 54); and Schumann (Symphonic Etudes, Op 13)
12.30-12.35am News

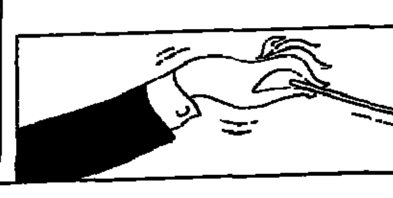
RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** *Weather*
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek
***10.00-10.30 A Word in Edgeways** (FM only) (r)*
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 The Phoenix and the Carpet (LW only) (3/5)
10.30 Woman's Hour
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Bolt: Dick Francis's thriller (2/5) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; *Running Before the Wind*: Still Waters. Part three
2.45 Just a Job: A Life in Pictures
3.00-10.05 Test Match Special (LW only): Final day
3.00 Anderson Country (FM only)
4.00 News (FM only)
4.05 Kaleidoscope (FM only)
4.45 Short Story (FM only): Lunch with Ruth Sykes
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping **5.55** Weather **6.00 Six O'Clock News** (FM only)
6.30 Counterpoint (FM only) (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers (FM only) **7.20 The Art of Travel** (FM only)
7.45 Medicine Now (FM only) (r)
8.15 Costing the Earth (FM only)
8.45 First Time Voters (FM only): See Choice
9.30 Kaleidoscope (FM only) (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight (FM only until 10.05)
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Lipstick on the Host (5/7)
11.00 Discursive Excursions (r)
11.30-12.00 Postcard from Gotham (FM only) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

CHOICE

First Time Voters. *Radio 4, 8.45pm.*
Not all of these four young black South Africans eligible to vote in the republic's first democratic elections next month know how they will vote, or even if they will enter the polling booths at all. They represent a rough cross-section of black society: journalist, stock exchange dealer, community dispute mediator, stand-up comedian. While it would be ill-advised to extrapolate from just four opinions, it would be equally unwise to dismiss them. This quartet speak from the head as much as from the heart.

More than Meets the Eye. *Radio 3, 10.00pm.*
How far are our eyes deceived by artifice? When regarding a work of art, it is enough to depend entirely on sight? Is it right to tell an artist: "Paint what you see, and forget what you know"? These are precisely the questions you would expect — and what we duly get — when the distinguished art historian, Professor Ernst Gombrich, is interviewed by Richard Gregory, Emeritus Professor of Neuropsychology at Bristol University. Their conversation is Radio 3's characteristic way of celebrating Gombrich's eighty-fifth birthday. **Peter Davalle**



LUNCHTIME CONCERTO 2PM.
MOZART - HORN CONCERTO NO 4 IN Eb MAJOR
CLASSIC FM 100-102

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat (83180566) **8.40** Lamb Chop (2441672) **9.10** Cartoons (8311479) **9.30** Card Sharks (43818) **10.00** Concentration (3347160) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (4684382) **10.30** Love at First Sight (39127) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (60634) **12.00** Urban Peasant (20479) **12.30pm** E Street (47634) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (42189) **2.00** Shaka Zulu (43479) **3.00** Another World (8196011) **3.50** DJ Kat (3483566) **5.00** Star Trek (7634) **6.00** Games World (3547) **6.30** E Street (7127) **7.00** M*A*S*H (6363) **7.30** Full House (6011) **8.00** *X-Files: Fallen Angel* (87276) **9.00** Code 3 (66295) **9.30** Seinfeld (67498) **10.00** Star Trek (16617) **11.00** Untouchables (81127) **12.00** Streets of San Francisco (73851) **1.00am** Night Court (56290) **1.30-2.00** In Living Color (56293)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (68837) **9.30** Nightline (89498) **10.30** Fashion TV (55943) **11.30** Japan Business (11301) **12.30pm** News/Business (66059) **1.30** CBS News (27160) **2.30** Parliament (22905) **4.30** News/Business (3924) **5.00** Live at Five (630382) **7.30** Fashion TV (4653) **9.30** Talkback (58740) **11.30** CBS News (25818) **12.30am** ABC News (27764) **1.30** Fashion TV (89306) **2.30** Those Were the Days (42412) **3.30** Talkback (54257) **4.30** Beyond 2000 (31257) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (63325)

SKY MOVIES

***6.00am Showcase** (1704059)*
10.00 Falsely Accused (1993). True story of a woman suspected of infanticide (41450)
12.00 A High Wind in Jamaica (1965) Children board a pirate ship (40382)
2.00pm Pocket Money (1972): Lee Marvin and Paul Newman play cattlemen (91479)
4.00 Lost in London (1985): An American boy loses his way in the city (2566)
6.00 Falsely Accused (as 10am) (16653)
8.00 Mystery Date (1991). Shy Ethan Hawke yearns for Teri Polo (78160)
10.00 Timebomb (1991): A watch-maker, Michael Biehn, is pursued by killers (408301)
11.40 Animal Instincts (1992): A husband watches his wife with other men (980740)
1.20am Fierce Boxer: Martial arts film starring Bruce Lee (520948)
2.55 Bonnie and Clyde: The True Story (1992) Biopic of the notorious duo. With Dana Ashbrook, Tracey Needham (7138899)
4.25-6.25 Pocket Money (as 2pm) (245031)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes (1984): With Christopher Lambert (72631419)
8.15 Little Shop of Horrors (1960): Roger Corman extravaganza (42242547)
10.00 The Long Good Friday (1980) Gangster Bob Hoskins pits his wits against terrorist rivals (46479). Ends at **12.00**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Ivanhoe (1986): Animation (53905)
7.00 Ali Baba: Cartoon (24030)
8.00 Felix the Cat — The Movie: The feline hero tries to rescue a kingdom (58301)
10.00 Last Holiday (1950): Alec Guinness as a terminally ill man (49062)
***12.00 New York Mounted** (1991): Adventure about mounted cops (48924)*
2.00pm Mutiny on the Buses (1973). Comedy spin-off with Reg Varney (82721)
4.00 Dogtanian and the Three Muskehounds (1981): Animation (9568)
6.00 Felix the Cat (as 8am) (16635)
8.00 Housesitter (1992). Goldie Hawn comedy, co-starring Steve Martin (66130)

10.00 Paydirt (1991): A prisoner's tip-off starts a hunt for buried loot (86721)
11.30 Videodrome (1982): Surrealistic horror from David Cronenberg (81450)
1.00am Highway to Hell (1992): Modern version of the Orpheus myth (257580)
***2.35 Writer's Block** (1991): An author has trouble killing off a character (7105290)*
4.05 Mutiny on the Buses (as 2pm) (810035) Ends at **6.05**

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Prime Bodies (16837) **7.30** Soccer News (7589108) **7.45** WWF Wrestling (7633295) **8.30** Sportsworld (17360) **9.00** Prime Bodies (26740) **9.30** Nascar Racing (69301) **11.30** Football Show (31189) **12.30pm** Irish Masters Snooker (253950) **3.00** Cricket. England v West Indies (38347437) **5.15** Netbusters (3833011) **5.30** Soccer (480634) **5.45** Cricket (53754905) **10.30** Soccer (521585) **10.45** Basketball (556030) **12.45am** Soccer (793764) **1.15-1.45** Sportsworld (790677)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Aerobics (13740) **8.00** Figure Skating (45547) **9.00** Eurofun (28108) **9.30** Table Tennis (27672) **10.30** Show Jumping (77189) **11.30** Eurotennis (15818) **1.30pm** Tennis (746479) **4.00** Football (50231479) **5.45** Motor Racing (346914) **6.45** News (230194) **7.00** Football (67821276) **9.15** Grand Prix (351127) **10.15** Football (559127) **12.15-12.30am** News (3814388)

UK GOLD

7.00am The Sullivans (3998030) **7.30** Neighbours (9788634) **7.55** Sons and Daughters (9796653) **8.25** EastEnders (4010092) **9.00** The Bill (7332301) **9.30** Juliet Bravo (8352479) **10.30** The Brothers (3119363) **11.30** The Sullivans (5869672) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7329637) **12.30pm** Neighbours (7914382) **1.00** EastEnders (3885301) **1.30** The Bill (7913653) **2.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4807653) **2.30** Get Some In! (5904943) **3.00** Knots Landing (9996740) **3.55** Dynasty (7619943) **4.50** Every Second Counts (3584566) **5.25** Give Us a Clue (14182295) **5.55** Sykes (7081943) **6.30** EastEnders (5896924) **7.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4818769) **7.30** Get Some In! (5992108) **8.00** Juliet Bravo (9427924) **9.00** Nancy Astor (9407160) **10.00** The Bill (7320566) **10.30** Three of a Kind (4276301) **11.10** Top of the Pops (2881295) **11.50** Dr Who (1134450) **12.20-2.25** FILM: Pimpernel Smith (1942, b/w): Leslie Howard rescues victims of the Nazis (67812764)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Droibee (46653) **7.00** RatKan II (6385127) **7.15** Toons (168059) **7.45** Beverley Hill Teens (150030) **8.15** Head to Head (9362301) **8.30** Teddy Ruxpin (44160) **9.00** Bobby's World (68740) **9.30** Ghostbusters (94653) **10.00** Around the World (77547) **10.30** Castle of Adventure (64924) **11.00** Dinoriders (48837) **11.30** Finder (49566) ***12.00** He-Man (55276) **12.30pm** Dungeons* and Dragons (72759) **1.00** You Can't Do That on TV (13837) **1.30** Mr Bogus (97740) **2.00** Potsworth (6189) **2.30** Noggin (9333450) **2.40** Crystal Tipps (3624634) **2.45** Babar (752547) **3.15** RatKan II (4054160) **3.20** Manu (4075653) **3.30** Ernest the Vampire (5111301) **3.35** Special Link (5790905) **3.45** Spot (6107108) **3.55** Head to Head (4307092) **4.00** Around the World (1740) **4.30-5.00** T-Rex (7924)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Batfink (1004214) **7.15** Hero Turtles (500011) **7.45** Rugrats (509382) **8.15** Rocko (4605914) **8.30** Blue (33030) **9.00** Eureeka's Castle (24382) **9.30** Fraggle Rock (50295)

10.00 David the Gnome (77450) **10.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (20566) **11.00** Janosch (11769) **11.30** Banana Sandwich (12498) **12.00** Monkees (11818) **12.30pm** Galaxy High School (54011) **1.00** Eureeka's Castle (39950) **1.30** Fraggle Rock (53382) **2.00** David the Gnome (4189) **2.30** Banana Sandwich (5160) **3.00** Alvin and the Chipmunks (6924) **3.30** Capital Critters (7905) **4.00** Hero Turtles (9740) **4.30** Rugrats (5924) **5.00** Clarissa (8769) **5.30** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (6276) **6.00** Galaxy High School (3189) **6.30-7.00** The Monkees (7769)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Challenge of the Seas (5993837) **4.30** Nature Watch (5982721) **5.00** Anything is Possible (4896547) **5.30** Pirates (7060450) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (2639276) **7.00** Predators (9416818) **8.00** The X-Planes (4825059) **8.30** Skybound (4804566) **9.00** Science (9438030) **10.00** Embrace of the Samurai (9415189) **11.00** Going Places (5858566) **11.30-12.00** On Top of the World (9243905)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Happy Ever After (1954) (2278127) **1.45** Art Linkletter (75263092) **2.00** FILM: Philadelphia Story (1940, b/w) (9431127) **4.00** Flying Nun (5980363) **4.30** My Three Sons (5986547) **5.00** Beverly Hillbillies (4816301) **5.30** Donny and Marie (5900127) **6.00** Honey West (5990740) **6.30** Scotland Yard (5981092) **7.00** Bonanza (9436672) **8.00** Avengers (9412092) **9.00** FILM: Curse of the Crimson Altar (1970) (98434176) **10.45** Torchy (6478214) **11.00** Get Smart (5845092) **11.30-12.00** Twilight Zone (9270059)

UK LIVING

7.00am Living (3038189) **8.00** The Treatment (4895363) **8.30** Rendezvous (4894634) **9.00** Dr Ruth (4818214) **9.30** Days of Our Lives (1217450) **10.30** Young and Restless (5743176) **11.30** Six Cooks (5969818) **12.00** Stars and Signs (90005740) **12.15pm** Living (21418721) **12.30** Housecalls (8221189) **1.00** Room for Change (6121030) **1.30** Rendezvous (8213160) **2.00** Agony Hour (8132301) **3.00** Living (2718769) **3.45** Gladrags (71911450) **4.00** Definition (4435566) **4.30** Infatuation (4424450) **5.00** Rodeo Drive (6470127) **5.30** *Fame* (7719108) **5.45** Kilroy (5869127) **6.30** Marco — White Heat (4436295) **7.00** Definition (6450363) **7.30** That's Amore (4432479) **8.00** Young and Restless (3330634) **9.00** Cagney and Lacey (3350498) **10.00** Charlie's Angels (3353585) **11.00** That's Amore (5903498) **11.30** Infatuation (8137856) **12.00-1.00am** Agony Hour (3018325)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Brother Jake (8699) **5.30** Zorro (8276) **6.00** Wonder Years (5189) **6.30** Catchphrase (9769) **7.00** All Clued Up (8455) **7.30** Pyramid (8653) **8.00** All Together Now (9653) **8.30** G P. (8160) **9.00** Lou Grant (69818) **10.00** *Trivial Pursuit* (56905) **10.30** Rhoda (65653) **11.00** Remington Steele (23214) **12.00-1.00am** Big Valley (66509)

TNT

Theme: School's Out
7.00pm Where the Boys Are (1960) Teenage girls go man-hunting (79771011)
***8.50 Good News** (1947). College campus* musical, starring June Allyson (73950363)
10.30 Get Yourself a College Girl (1964): A student writes pop songs (26247905)
12.10am Strawberry Statement (1970): A college boy becomes an activist (66816783)
2.10 The Magic Garden of Stanley Sweetheart (1970): Don Johnson plays a student ensnared by drugs (11619986). Ends at **5.00**

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM 88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. **GLR:** FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. **COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND HILARY BRISTOW**

PEAK PRACTICE is sponsored by
Tonight at 9pm on ITV

Chanderpaul stands firm to extend West Indies' lead in third Test

England's hopes under a cloud

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN PORT OF SPAIN

THE bright-eyed anticipation with which England's cricketers went to work yesterday did not even survive until lunch-time. Deserted, when it most mattered, by the disciplines which had carried them to the threshold of a rare and notable victory, they then found themselves mocked by the fates.

Dark clouds settled over Queen's Park Oval at the end of a session in which this intriguing third Test altered direction yet again. West Indies are never more menacing than when logic decrees they are beaten and, during a morning of gripping cricket, their position improved from forlorn to fair. And then it rained.

Four years ago, it was lunch-time on the final day of the corresponding Test when rain deprived England of almost certain victory. The injustice was beyond dispute. This time, though, it was unclear which team would be distraught and which relieved at an interruption which cost 22 overs.

On the resumption, England broke through within two overs when Winston Benjamin chipped Chris Lewis to mid-on, where Fraser took a simple catch. By then, however, the lead was 151 and growing.

All morning, England had been thwarted by a teenager stoical beyond his years. Shivnarine Chanderpaul had one crucial moment of good fortune, for he had made only seven when Graeme Hick, a slip catcher as dependable as any in England, put down a chance he would have taken 19 times out of 20. It was a miss of immeasurable significance. Chanderpaul never faltering again as he batted through the session and into the extended rain break.

Hick's miss, waist-high off Lewis, was the focal point of the morning but it would be absurdly simplistic to blame England's diminishing returns entirely on him. The bowling, so consistently challenging when West Indies subsided on Sunday, lost its sense of direction. Angus Fraser seemed suddenly unable to locate line or length, especially when tempted to go round the wicket to Chanderpaul, and with Lewis looking similarly innocuous, the boyish features of Michael Atherton adopted a permanent furrow.

THE TIMES
FIRST CLASS XI
Canon

Play *The Times* First Class XI game, which will run throughout the English cricket season, on page 43

Atherton had turned first to Fraser and Lewis when play began in sunshine, on a pitch noticeably greener for a day and night under cover. The cracks, evident throughout, were also ominously widening and England were uncomfortably aware that a last-innings target of more than 150 would be hazardous if Ambrose and Walsh responded to the pressure as they are prone to do.

With this in mind, Atherton was conservative in his field setting. When Chanderpaul was on strike, he used only one slip and, in the style of the West Indians, employed a ring of single-saving fielders to frustrate. Chanderpaul, however, declined to respond. In his crouching, square-on stance, and with idiosyncratic touches of pad and helmet before each ball, he pushed persistently forward to almost everything.

By this simple method, he countered the low bounce which, at least against the softer, old ball, was the only consistent menace in the pitch. The new ball would be different but, in getting to it, England conceded too many runs and took too few prisoners.

Junior Murray detained them for almost an hour, though with no sense of permanence. Twice, the tall and ungainly wicketkeeper brought from Fraser his most world-weary expressions by inside-edging, perilously close to the stumps, balls he was trying to leave alone. Even Murray looked baffled at his survival.

At length, Atherton summoned Andrew Caddick and, with the fifth ball of his first over, he took his fourth wicket of the innings. Murray, drawn into the defensive push by a ball on the line others were finding so elusive, edged low to Russell's right. England took drinks, doubtless believing they were over the worst of the resistance. Instead, they were confronted by a man deciding he would bat as he can, rather than as he too often does.

Benjamin is a cricketer of natural gifts but limited concentration span. His batting is usually ruled by impatience, yet he is technically well-equipped. Now, just when England could have done with some native impetuosity, he played with style and responsibility for an hour.

The bad balls, of which there were too many, were driven with uncomplicated power, but he also defended stoutly when it was necessary, matching the straight bat of the stubbornly strokeless Chanderpaul. An edge past second slip by Benjamin, from a Caddick outswinger, took the lead past 100 and it was only four overs later that the same bowler overpitched and Benjamin hit him, one bounce, to the long-off boundary to bring up the West Indies' 200.

Salisbury was belatedly tried and turned the ball exaggeratedly, but when Atherton once more called upon Fraser, Benjamin's eyes widened. A lavish drive brought some frantic signals from the dressing-room balcony to the effect that lunch was close.

Benjamin's response was to whip the next ball for four, a firm indication that two hours had shifted the command of this match.

☐ Allan Border refused to be drawn on speculation of his retirement after helping guide Australia to a draw in the third and final Test match against South Africa in Durban. "I think everyone's pretty aware that this could be the last one," the Australia captain said. "But I want to go away and make the decision in different circumstances than straight away after the game. I'm just disappointed the way the match went. It would have been nice to come off in different circumstances if this is the last game." Border, playing his 156th Test, scored an unbeaten 42.

Waugh resistance, page 44

GRAHAM MORRIS



Caddick celebrates after having Murray caught at the wicket at Queen's Park Oval yesterday morning

PORT OF SPAIN SCOREBOARD

WEST INDIES: First Innings 252 (R B Richardson 63; A R C Fraser 4 for 49, C C Lewis 4 for 61).

Second Innings

D L Haynes b Lewis	19 (105min, 68 balls, 1 four)
*R B Richardson c and b Caddick	3 (34min, 28 balls)
B C Lara c Salisbury b Caddick	12 (35min, 18 balls, 3 fours)
K L T Arthurton c Stewart b Caddick	42 (144min, 88 balls, 1 six, 3 fours)
J C Adams c Russell b Salisbury	43 (137min, 97 balls, 5 fours)
S Chanderpaul not out	25 (3 fours)
†J R Murray c Russell b Caddick	14 (52min, 37 balls, 2 fours)
W K M Benjamin c Fraser b Lewis	35 (6 fours)
C E L Ambrose not out	0
Extras (b 8, lb 6, nb 7)	30
Total (7 wkts)	227

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-37, 3-51, 4-131, 5-143, 6-167, 7-227.

ENGLAND: First Innings 328 (G P Thorpe 86, M A Atherton 48, G A Hick 40; C E L Ambrose 5 for 60).

Umpires: S A Bucknor and S Venkataraghavan.

Match referee: J R Reid.

RESULTS OF PREVIOUS TESTS: First Test: Kingston, Jamaica; West Indies won by 8 wickets; Second Test: Georgetown, Guyana, West Indies won by an innings and 44 runs.

TESTS TO COME: Fourth Test: Bridgetown, Barbados, April 8 to 13. Fifth Test: St John's, Antigua, April 16 to 21

McColgan back for Aberdeen clash with Murray

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

LIZ McColgan, out of athletics for nearly a year with a succession of injuries, returns in a Bupa international road race over 5,000 metres in Aberdeen on May 22 when her opponents will include her arch rival, Yvonne Murray.

McColgan has not raced since the corresponding event last year when she clashed controversially with Murray, whom she accused of elbowing her into second place.

She was so upset by her opponent's tactics on that occasion that she declined Murray's embrace after the race.

Since then she has been sidelined with back and hamstring injuries and, more recently, a knee problem which was sufficiently serious to persuade her not to contest next month's London Marathon.

However, she is confident she will be back to full fitness in time to tackle the 10,000 metres at this season's European championships and Commonwealth Games.

The 29-year-old Scot, the world 10,000 metres champion in 1991 and winner of her first marathon in New York three months later, recently returned from working out in Florida.

"My training is going fine and I'm looking forward to racing again," she said. "It will show me what sort of shape I'm in for the European championships and Commonwealth Games later in the season.

"It's been a traumatic time for me. I don't think that anyone would really understand the depth of the problems I have had. But the way I'm feeling now, I believe the summer is going to be good for me. There is a wee bit more bounce in my legs."

At yesterday's race launch, Murray insisted she would not change her tactics of running on McColgan's shoulder to try and break her rhythm. "The hatchet is never buried," Murray said. "You have to be aggressive in your racing. I will run in exactly the same manner."

McColgan said: "Yvonne always runs that way and she knows it niggles me. Somehow I have to beat it."

Norman hearing, page 44

Hick allows potential turning points to slip away

FROM DAVID MILLER IN PORT OF SPAIN

POOR Graeme Hick. Were England to lose narrowly the third Test here, the blame would be cast upon him for his fumbled catches at second slip off Chris Lewis and Andy Caddick when Shivnarine Chanderpaul was on only four early on the fourth day and then 29 in the afternoon session.

By the time rain had intervened play during the lunch interval, Chanderpaul and Winston Benjamin had put on 54 in their seventh-wicket partnership and West Indies' lead had extended beyond what pessimists regarded as England's safety point — 140. It had seemed that Ladbrokes's odds at the opening of play yesterday of 4-11 for England and 2-1 for West Indies were the reverse of what they should have been. The bookies seemed to have overlooked the prospect of Ambrose and Walsh bowling in a fourth innings.

"Daddy, is it true that you lost the World Cup?" Norman Hunter's daughter asked him the morning after the drawn qualifying match against Poland in 1973. Hunter had been 50 yards from goal when he made his error. This was no World Cup, but, for the unfortunate Hick, there was no hiding from the weight of his errors when England were in full pursuit of regaining their credibility.

Lewis, whose ten-over spell was a herculean effort, had forced Chanderpaul in only his third over to edge one away. It flew straight into Hick's midriff. Undroppable. Or so you would have supposed. The ball bobbled, fell and Hick, transfixed, gazed down at his hands as aghast as Lady Macbeth. It was, for him, an uncommon lapse, no less the second time, but the significance was to prove potentially decisive as England's perceived overnight advantage slid away.

In the next over, Chanderpaul almost cut Lewis onto his own stumps, but, thereafter, he looked increasingly secure. West Indies have taken a gamble on the 19-year-old Guyanan — the first teenager selected by them for 21 years — and his 62 "at home" in the second Test and his two performances here have confirmed his promise.

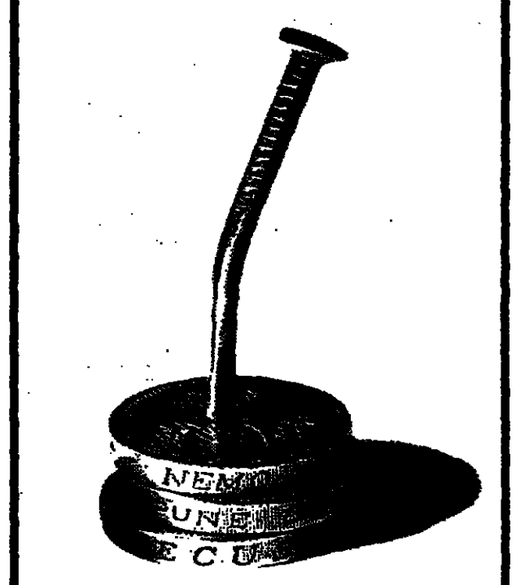
I have not shared the same degree of optimism as many about England's capacity to win this fluctuating, absorbing Test: not because of any lack of commitment on their part, but because of the memory of the inaugural match against South Africa at Barbados two years ago. Just when South Africa seemed set for victory on the final day, Ambrose and Walsh respectively took six for 34 and four for 31 and the result was turned on its head.

Like many great teams, West Indies have often shown a capacity to accelerate when necessary, suddenly to break out of a patch of wandering concentration — such as they exhibited during the last couple of hours of England's first innings — and dramatically too reassert themselves. Reluctantly, it is this capacity that I expected to see when England bat again, more than some further improvement from Thorpe or Ramprakash. But you never know.

England may yet, of course, do something notable with the bat, yet the odds were lengthening with every cross-batted boundary from Winston Benjamin. Caddick, having had Murray caught at the wicket on the fifth ball of his first over, could not recapture the sting of his Sunday afternoon spell. England's euphoria, albeit always restrained, began to evaporate into the humid rain-mists of the surrounding tropical hills.

The only hope for Hick was that his blunder would not be of the same order as Underwood's at Cardiff Arms Park last year, when he was caught looking the wrong way as the Welsh captain, Ieuen Evans, swept through to score the match-winning try. Such is the stuff of sport.

"I like to keep tabs on my money"

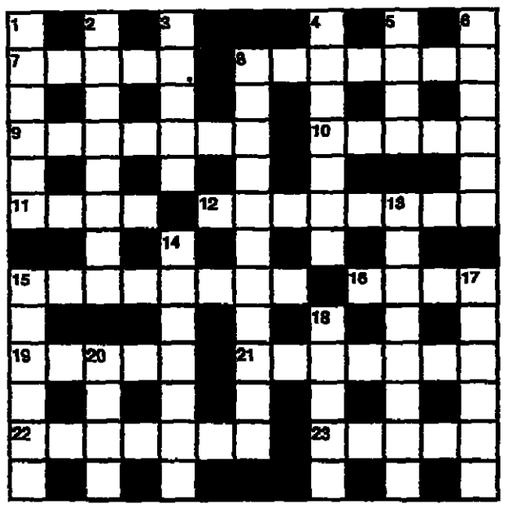


Everyone with a bank account will value the way the Psion Series 3a palmtop computer records and reports transactions.* Unlike haphazard records and tedious statement reconciliations, it provides an accurate, up-to-date account status, identifies bank errors, and saves time and money by managing financial affairs efficiently and easily. It's just one of a thousand and one ways the Psion Series 3a helps you to manage your life.

*Using the Money program, optional extra

PSION SERIES 3

For brochure call 071-258 7368 or 071-262 5660. Argos, Alfides Dept Stores, Berry of Holborn, Boots, Clarks, Harrods, John Lewis Partnership, P.C. World, Ryman, Selfridges, Sales, W.H. Smith, Wallace Heaton, SIS (Euro), Duty Free Outlets and independent computer dealers



CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: The Times Concise Crosswords — Books 1 & 2 (Special Edition 240 puzzles) £5.74 each, Books 3 & 4 £4.25 each. The Times Jumbo Crosswords — Book 1 £5.25, Book 2 £5.99. Concise Book 1 £5.99. The Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 13 £4.74 each, Books 14 to 16 £4.25 each. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Books 1 to 10 £4.74 each, Book 11 £4.25. Concise Books 1 & 2 £4.25 each. Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques to Alkon Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel 081-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

Just released from Times Books. The Times Crosswords — Book 17. The Times Concise Crosswords — Book 5. The Sunday Times Crosswords — Book 12. £4.25 each (inc p&p).

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 126

ACROSS
7 Go away! (3,2)
8 Charge for drinking own wine (7)
9 Promising actress (7)
10 Darkness (5)
11 Formal fight for two (4)
12 State church member (8)
15 Agricultural land out of use (3-5)
16 Portent (4)
19 White streak on horse's face (5)
21 Unappreciative person (7)
22 Led on (7)
23 Period of sleepless prayer (5)

DOWN
1 Introduced in stages (6)
2 Visible (8)
3 Seat; stand: play for time (5)
4 Small particle (eg of sugar) (7)
5 Sharp pain (4)
6 Mrs –, 19C cookery writer (6)
8 Inflexibly pre-arranged (3,3,5)
13 Set of operations leading to objective (8)
14 Vital, core quality (7)
15 Leased on by tenant (6)
17 Grudge; indicator on dial (6)
18 Pointed arch; diagonal rib (5)
20 Deeds (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 125

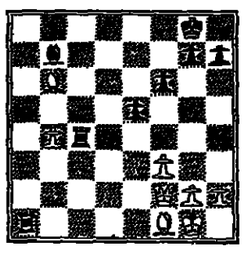
ACROSS: 1 Clover leaf 9 Handler 10 Drear 11 Root 12 Quickset 14 Deacon 15 Claque 18 Lifeboat 20 Wild 22 Nerve 23 Freshen 24 Tom Collins

DOWN: 2 Lilt 3 Virtue 4 Ridicule 5 Evens 6 First reading 7 The Red Planet 8 Angora 13 Sombrero 16 Quiche 17 Earful 19 Forum 21 Mean

CHESS

By Raymond Keene

Today's problem is from the game Paehtz - Fernandez, Albena 1989. White has a material advantage, but is handicapped by the pin on his first rank. How did he overcome his difficulties?



Solution, page 42

WORDS

By Philip Howard

DESIPIENT
a. Foolish
b. A delivery man
c. A cure for flatulence

ELEPHANTRY
a. The study of pachyderms
b. Abnormal growth
c. Elephant troops

THANATOPHIDIA
a. Venomous snakes
b. Morbid fear of spiders
c. Micro-organisms in bread

UMBRATILOUS
a. A place to shelter from rain
b. Flowering in umbels
c. Unreal

Answers on page 42